



38 injured as Portadown loyalists riot

From Richard Ford, Portadown

Hundreds of rioting "loyalists" clashed with the security forces yesterday in Portadown, Co. Armagh, in angry protest against the Government's decision to ban a big Protestant parade through the town.

The police and soldiers came under frequent and vicious attacks throughout a day during which tensions in the town ran high as security forces virtually sealed it off in an effort to prevent thousands of loyalists arriving to demonstrate.

A total of 38 people were injured including 10 police officers who were in hospital last night with serious injuries. Many of the others injured suffered wounds after being hit by plastic bullets fired at the rioters by the police dressed in riot gear.

One of the non-police victims is seriously ill with a fractured skull and ruptured lung. Such was the anger that at Craigavon Area Hospital nurses and doctors had to restrain relatives of the injured from attacking two police officers in the casualty ward.

Thousands of people milled aimlessly through the town's streets for most of the day and by early evening the RUC had fired 125 plastic baton rounds at rioters, many of whom wore masks and carried Union Jacks.

The police, who had sealed off parts of the town's shopping centre with huge concrete barriers and chains, were pelted with stones, bottles and tin cans.

The first attacks came in the morning at a bridge across the River Ban where rows of Land Rovers stopped an Apprentice Boys band and its supporters from marching into the town centre.

With the Army standing at the ready, youths hurled bricks at the police while middle-aged men and women screamed abuse and laughed at the predicament of the police.

Eventually the security forces drove the rioters away from the town centre.

In the afternoon the most serious disturbances were at the junction of a street leading to a Roman Catholic area. The police came under sustained attack and replied by firing dozens of plastic bullets into the crowd.

As the rioting continued, families with children stood laughing and joking on street corners, youths smashed paving stones to hurl at police Land Rovers and, as youngsters taunted the RUC, older men shouted from the back of the crowd: "Go on, give it to the bastards".

There were cheers whenever a police Land Rover was hit and other spectators barged to the front to watch the violence.

Loyalist Apprentice Boys in their insignia stood aside as hoodlums smashed shop windows and pulled makeshift barricades across the main street. As bands marched along the street, cries of "victory", the barricades were lit and later a drapery store was set alight.

The police backed by hundreds of soldiers drafted into the town had clearly decided to allow bands to march in the main street despite the government order forbidding parades in Portadown yesterday.

A hundred extra troops were flown to the town by helicopter in the afternoon to provide reinforcement to roads leading to Roman Catholic areas amid fears that loyalists would try to get into Catholic streets.

Elsewhere in the province there were brief skirmishes with the police during two other Apprentice Boys parades at Aughnacloy in Co. Tyrone and in Belfast. A parade in Fintona, Co. Down passed peacefully.

Early yesterday the RUC arrested 26 loyalists, including leading members of the paramilitary Ulster Defence Association in raids on their homes. They were taken to Castleragh holding centre where last night they were still being questioned by detectives.

However, it was the government decision to ban the parade in Portadown, announced only 13 hours before 20,000 Apprentice Boys had planned to march along a route passing three Roman Catholic housing estates, that infuriated loyalists and has probably set the tone for Ulster's traditional summer marching season.

The police stopped buses bringing bands to the town on the M1 motorway and in Belfast loyalists were prevented from boarding trains to take them to Portadown. Buses hired for the occasion were cancelled.

Hours after the ban was announced late on Sunday night, 3,000 loyalists led by the Rev Ian Paisley and his deputy, Mr Peter Robinson, defied the Government and marched along the route.

There were clashes between loyalists and nationalists on a road bordering Roman Catholic areas.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Government pledge to pay for full restoration



The Queen with Lord Maclean, the Steward of Hampton Court, inspecting the damage after the fire at the palace yesterday (Photograph: John Voos).

Widow dies as blaze sweeps Hampton Court

By Colin Hughes

The Queen was visibly shocked yesterday when she saw the wreckage of Hampton Court Palace after a fire which killed a general's widow and caused millions of pounds of damage.

The Queen, the Prince of Wales and Princess Margaret spent about 30 minutes inspecting the debris caused by the fire, which gutted a wing built by Sir Christopher Wren, destroyed valuable works of art and severely damaged state rooms.

The fire started above the palace's Cartoon Gallery, where Lady Gale, aged 86, the widow of General Sir Richard Gale, lived in a "grace and favour" apartment. Her body was found in her top-floor room, where she was in the habit of sitting by candlelight.

Two feet away from where her body was discovered, the floor of her room and the building's roof collapsed on to the gallery 40 ft below.

Mr Gerald Drayton, the palace's works officer, said repairs would take millions of pounds and several years to complete.

"You're talking about another cathedral job. What has been burnt out is totally irreplaceable. It's a seventeenth century Wren building, and you can't just rebuild that."

Two paintings were destroyed along with furniture and oak panelling, but most items were rapidly cleared.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, who visited the palace while parts of the roof were still collapsing, said his department would pay for restoration. "Fortunately this country has craftsmen who can make good this damage, and I'm afraid there is going to be plenty of work for furniture and picture restorers."

Two smoke-blackened and water-drenched paintings, "The Field of the Cloth of Gold", and a portrait of Henry VIII and his family, were taken immediately to restorers.

The palace and its grounds, which attracted 30,000 visitors on Good Friday, are expected to be closed for a few days.

The fire was discovered by security staff at 5.45am. Six elderly women - widows of generals, diplomats and former colonial service officials - were moved out of their top-floor flats before 120 firemen from all over London and Surrey arrived.

Mr Toby Jessel, MP for Twickenham, said the women were "brave, spirited and quite unflappable", and had quickly recovered from the shock.

Palace staff attending them had been concerned that Lady Gale, whose husband was a Commander-in-Chief of the British Army of the Rhine in the mid-1930s, "had become increasingly unable to fend for herself".

One member of staff added: "She was in the habit of taking a drink at night by candlelight, and falling asleep sometimes with the candle still burning. Some of the ladies had feared a fire might start."

Mr Roy Snarey, the assistant chief fire officer in charge, compared the fire to finding a way through Hampton Court's maze. He said the fire probably started two or three days ago.

Continued on page 16, col 1

Tomorrow

Waiting for the Colonel



How a British journalist, guest of Gaddafi at an anti-imperialism conference, found himself under arrest

Meeting fire with fire

Street violence: return of the vigilante

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition resumes today with the daily prize of £2,000. Portfolio list, page 22; the rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

Express deal

Express Newspapers has agreed job cuts and changes in working practices with all unions. More than 2,500 of the 6,800 staff will take redundancy or early retirement. Maxwell's defiance, page 2

Howe pledge

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who is visiting Delhi, said Britain was willing to make it easier to extradite terrorists to India. Page 8

Soviet tirade

Superpower squabbling worsened with an attack by Mr Gorbachev on the Reagan Administration and an anti-US tirade over the supply of missiles to rebels. Page 7

Police in nuclear site battle

Wackersdorf (Reuters) - Police yesterday turned water-jets faced with tear gas on anti-nuclear demonstrators at the planned site of West Germany's first nuclear reprocessing plant.

A spokesman said water cannon was trained on protesters throwing missiles over the 9.3-mile security fence around the Wackersdorf site near the border with Czechoslovakia.

Police deployed 3,000 men in riot gear, 40 water-cannon trucks and 300 other vehicles at and around the construction site after clashes on Sunday.

Organizers said more than 100,000 people had come from all over the country in an attempt to stop the project which they say poses grave health and environmental hazards. Police put the number at 30,000.

The tense situation at Wackersdorf, the scene of repeated clashes since loggers began clearing the site late last year, was in sharp contrast to peaceful Easter marches in other parts of West Germany.

Photograph, page 7

166 killed in Mexico air crash

From John Carlin Mexico City

A Mexican commercial airliner with 166 people on board, including eight crew members, crashed yesterday morning 100 miles west of Mexico City. An airline spokesman said all aboard the aircraft had died.

The plane, a Boeing 727 belonging to the large Mexican private airline Mexicana de Aviación, was reported to have gone down in mountainous terrain near the town of Maravatio. Airport officials said helicopters had flown over the crash area for more than two hours before finding the wreckage.

The Boeing was bound for the Pacific Ocean resort of Puerto Vallarta, one of the most popular resorts in Mexico for foreign tourists. The flight, Mexicana 940, was due to go on from Puerto Vallarta to Los Angeles. It had left Mexico City at 8.40am and crashed after 9.10am.

The crash came at the end of one of the Mexico City airport's busiest-ever Easter weekends.

Similar quangos have been created to complete the abolition of the six Labour-led metropolitan county councils, which were also scrapped. From today, Tyne and Wear, Merseyside, West Midlands, South and West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester will exist only as postal addresses.

Continued on page 2, col 5

GLC bids farewell to politicians

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

A banner reading "We'll meet again" facing the Houses of Parliament across the Thames, marked the final moments of the Greater London Council last night.

The mixture of threat and promise from Mr Ken Livingstone to the Prime Minister was the last of a series of taunts directed by the Labour-led GLC to its opponents in Parliament.

The slogan, which faced Westminster from the top of the GLC headquarters, is unlikely to survive the demise of the council for long. The massive building, with its five miles of corridors and hundreds of rooms, today becomes the property of the London Residuary Body.

This body, a quango with a workforce of 4,000 compared with the 22,000 who worked for the GLC, has been created to take over the tasks and property of the defunct council for which no permanent home has been found. Its main role is to work itself out of a job by clearing up everything left after abolition, including the council's headquarters.

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Continued on page 2, col 5

Shake-up may aid inner city pupils

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Plans for a nationwide network of "Crown" schools, run directly by the Government and concentrated in Britain's inner city areas, are gaining increasing support from Cabinet ministers as part of the proposed shake-up of state education.

With Mrs Thatcher determined to go into the next general election with a new and radical education policy, included in the Conservative manifesto, her senior colleagues are talking of 50 to 60 schools in the poorest areas being removed from local authority control, being run from Whitehall in an attempt to restore standards and discipline.

Ministers are now convinced, not least by their investigation into last year's inner city riots, that existing educational policies in many worst-off areas have been a failure.

They believe schools are providing pupils, many from deprived backgrounds, with an inadequate chance of succeeding when they leave.

Crown schools would not only try to improve educational standards but also to offer extra support to such pupils. A boarding element within the new set-up has not been ruled out.

Ministers envisage that if the scheme was a success, and parents chose to send their children to Crown schools rather than comprehensive ones, there would be a powerful case for the Government taking full control of the State system.

Meanwhile Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, is considering whether £90 million given to local education authorities towards English teaching for immigrants can be spent more effectively. One idea is for the money to be given direct to community leaders who could set up their own courses.

Wintry weather keeps holiday traffic low

By Robin Young

Snow, gritting machines, heavy rain and gale force winds were among the obstacles Easter holidaymakers contended with yesterday as cold and miserable weather put paid to the last day of the bank holiday break.

Four inches of snow was reported in the Oldham area and more snow fell in Buxton and Bolton. The Royal Automobile Club reported that roads to the usual bank holiday seaside resorts were quiet.

The work-to-rule imposed by Customs officers at Heathrow Airport in protest at rostering arrangements for the new terminal four brought no significant delays for passengers.

A man died, and his woman companion was seriously injured, when the engine failed on their water-ski speedboat in choppy seas off Sudbury, in the Severn Estuary. The boat capsized and both were thrown into the water.

A helicopter from RAF Chivenor airlifted the couple to the Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, but the man was dead on arrival.

At Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, police made 90 arrests during a rally of about 10,000 scooter riders.

Liverpool on top

In a heavy Easter Monday sports programme, Liverpool went to the top of the first division for the first time since they won 2-0 at home to Manchester City. They replace Everton, who drew 0-0 at Manchester United.

Sport, pages 28-32
Weather forecast, page 16

Brighter outlook for world economy

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

A more cheerful picture of the world's economic prospects is being given in forecasts by economists at the Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The drop in the oil price is expected to boost output by 1.5 per cent and cut inflation by 4.5 per cent. The forecasts, which will be published in June, are expected to show that Japan and the EEC countries other than Britain do best out of the declining oil price.

This is because their currencies have been rising sharply against the dollar, in which oil prices are quoted, thus giving them a sharp drop in the price they pay for oil. But the forecasts at the OECD, which groups the 24 most powerful western industrial nations, gave a warning last December that a sharp drop in oil prices, well below \$10 a barrel could cause problems.

The possibility of that was raised yesterday by Dr Mana Saeed al Otaiba, the oil minister of the United Arab Emirates.

Substantial boost, page 17

Spain drafts 8,000 police to deter bombers

Madrid (Reuters) - Spain will draft 8,000 police reinforcements to Mediterranean resorts this summer to guard against possible bomb attacks by Basque separatists.

Señor Rafael Vera, the Interior Ministry under-secretary, said Basque guerrillas set off 19 bombs at beach resorts last summer and another guerrilla offensive this summer could not be ruled out.

The ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) separatists said last year its campaign of violence was designed to pressure Spain's Socialist Government into granting political independence to the Basque region.

Books burnt as Gaddafi bans English

From Robert Fisk Tripoli, Libya

In a demonstration which most seem chillingly similar to those staged in Nazi Germany, Colonel Gaddafi this week ordered officials at Libya's largest university to burn hundreds of English and French textbooks and close departments of English and French studies on the campus.

The closure decision and the book burning - which took place at the Fateh University in Tripoli on Sunday - were, typically, part of the Colonel's campaign to "Arabize" Libya, a policy which has almost eliminated European languages in road signs, restaurant menus, Libyan-published books, advertisements and even visa applications.

There were 1,300 undergraduates in the English and French faculties at the university but unprecedented protests by the bravest of them have persuaded the authorities to allow third and fourth year students to continue their studies. However, second-year students will be encouraged to transfer to other subjects, first-years will have to abandon their studies altogether, and no further men or women will be permitted to enter courses in either department.

The English faculty at Fateh University specializes in Shakespeare - particularly critical works on 16th century English literature - as well as studies of Dickens, Wordsworth and Keats. Curiously, students also read in class Gaddafi's Green Book, an English version of the Colonel's slim volume of philosophical work which is presumably acceptable to the authorities in any language.

The Libyan regime has developed a habit in recent weeks of staging destructive acts to demonstrate its hostility towards Western culture and society. A few weeks ago Gaddafi functionaries smashed Western musical instruments in "Green Square" in the centre of Tripoli.

While the book-burning, therefore, does not have about it quite the same racist quality that invested the Nazi demonstrations in the 1930s, it nevertheless contained a dangerous emotional charge in a dictatorship which now reserves so much of its energy for threatening West European and American interests around the world.

The students at the Fateh University showed unexpected courage yesterday in denouncing both the bookburning and the departmental closures to foreign journalists.

"The English language is part of myself," a woman undergraduate who was close to tears, said. "I feel as if part of myself has been taken away."

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Labour man at Fulham fights to alleviate Militant factor

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Mr Nick Raynsford, Labour candidate in the Fulham by-election, tried yesterday to prevent the "Militant Tendency" factor from undermining his campaign by producing computerized canvassing figures showing him on course for a runaway victory on April 10.

With his Conservative and Alliance opponents doing everything possible to highlight the influence of the Trotskyist group and other left-wing extremists in the Labour Party, Mr Raynsford produced figures, based on canvassing almost half the constituency's voters, which showed Labour with 46 per cent support, compared with 25 per cent for the Conservatives and about 20 per cent for the Alliance.

He agreed that his figures underestimated the true Conservative support by about 5 per cent because of the lack of intensive canvassing in solidly Tory areas, but he insisted, with 10 days to polling day, they gave a clear indication "that we are on course for victory".

They also showed that "scare stories" and attacks by his opponents after last week's failure of Labour's national executive to expel 12 Liverpool Militants "are having little or no impact".

Mr Frank Dobson, Labour MP for Holborn and St Pancras and Mr Raynsford's campaign "minister", said that because of concern about the possible impact of Militant he had ordered a new canvass of two housing estates. It had shown there was no sign of any drift in Labour support.

Mr Raynsford said that he

had been around two council estates after the Militant saga and "not a single person raised the issue".

It appears that the council estates he visited were different from those canvassed by Mr Matthew Carrington and Mr Roger Liddle, the Conservative and Alliance candidates, who jointly pointed yesterday to a big shift in voting intentions as a result of the Militant factor.

Mr Carrington said that the events last week had blown out of the water Labour attempts to pretend that the Militant issue was under control. There was almost no difference in policy terms between Militant and some left-wingers being selected to fight safe Labour seats in London.

"Militant is the tip of the iceberg. It is the symptom, it is not the disease. It is the boil on the face, it is not the underlying cause of the problem and that message has really got over to Labour Party supporters."

Despite opinion poll predictions, he insisted that the Conservatives would win the by-election. "People who supported us last time will support us again."

Mr Liddle said that the Militant fiasco had led to deep inroads in the Labour vote. "I am pretty convinced a substantial section of the Labour vote is coming over to us," he said.

General election: M. Stevens (C), 18,204; A. Powell (Lab), 13,415; D. Rendell (L/All), 7,194; Miss J. Grimes (Eco), 277; R. Pearce (NF), 229; J. Keats (Ind L), 102. C. maj: 4,789.

Maxwell puts up barbed wire

Barbed-wire was put up around parts of Mr Robert Maxwell's strike-hit Scottish Daily Record and Sunday Mail printing plant in Glasgow yesterday, as the management spoke of the "gullibility" and "intimidation" of journalists.

A private security firm has been brought in to guard with dogs the premises at Anderson Quay. The plant is being picketed by journalists who have been dismissed. All the other staff have been dismissed.

About 1,000 former workers met in Glasgow yesterday. The talks were private and no decisions were taken, but it is understood that the mood was one of determination to reject Mr Maxwell's offer of re-employment on terms which include a five-day, instead of a four-day, working week for all.

Mr Maxwell said at the weekend that he was closing his Scottish titles and dismissing the staff.

Letters were delivered by hand to each of the 1,050 employees telling them that they had lost their jobs, but inviting them to apply for positions with two new companies to be set up today to publish and print the Daily Record and Sunday Mail.

The Daily Record and Sunday Mail in Glasgow would be printed elsewhere if the 1,000 journalists and printers dismissed at the weekend did not accept new conditions and apply to join the new company set up to run the two newspapers. Mr Maxwell said yesterday.

In the latest move in the dispute, which has shut down both titles for three weeks, Mr Maxwell declined to say where production would be carried out. But he said that if it was in Manchester, and members of Sogat '82, the print union, continued to refuse to do the work, it would be breaking the

Staff cuts deal could halt Express closure

The threatened closure of Express Newspapers is likely to be lifted today, after meeting between print union leaders and management.

Leaders of the print union Sogat '82 said yesterday that they had accepted, in principle, a plan to cut the workforce from 6,800 to 4,300.

Mr Bill Miles, the national officer, said: "I am confident that we will come to an agreement. There are a couple of areas where we differ from management, but I expect them to be sorted out tomorrow."

United Newspapers, which took over Fleet Holdings, the parent company of Express Newspapers, last October, said that it would close the

Daily Express, the Sunday Express and The Star, if the unions did not agree to his plan by tonight.

Mr Miles said that the union and management still differed from two of the Sogat '82 chapters (office branches) on the number of redundancies, but added: "We are only talking about 10 or 15 people."

Theremangement, led by Mr David Stevens, chairman of United Newspapers, has said the job losses and new working conditions for the staff that remain are essential if the Express titles are to compete with Mr Eddy Shah's Today and Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International papers, which are using new technology at a lower cost.

Shipyard chief's plea on naval deal

A "wrong" decision by the Government on the placing of a £240 million naval shipbuilding contract would end prospects of a significant increase in British exports, according to Dr Ken Chapman, joint managing director of Swan Hunter, the newly privatized shipbuilders on the Tyne.

Swan Hunter is campaigning to win the Ministry of Defence contract for two auxiliary oil replenishment vessels (AORs), and Dr Chapman said yesterday that if the order went to Harland and Wolff, the State-owned Belfast yard, a rival bidder, Britain's chances of winning a multi-million-pound export market for naval auxiliary vessels would be dashed.

Dr Chapman said that Swan Hunter was the only British yard in the running for a £50 million auxiliary vessel order from a navy "outside Europe", but it could not expect to be successful if the AOR contract went to Harland.

"We may be the world leader regarding this type of vessel but any foreign government would think twice about placing an order with a company which has failed to secure a contract from its own Government."

He said that Swan Hunter's standing in the naval field was undermined by the fact it had been invited to present two papers at an international conference of the Royal Institute of Naval Architects in London.

This is an acknowledgement that we are the world leaders, and the two papers form a very great back-up for marketing and sales operations. In view of this it seems ludicrous that we should be any doubt over Swan Hunter winning the AOR contract."

A decision on the AOR contract had been expected last week but has been postponed until mid-April, after the Swan Hunter campaign and lobbying from Labour and Conservative MPs.

Mr Neville Trotter, Conservative MP for Tyne and Wear, said yesterday that he believed Harland and Wolff could not build the ships for less than Swan Hunter and emphasized that Britain needed to retain the capability of the Tyne yards for the Royal Navy and for export order.

"It is quite appalling that after nationalization in 1977, no big naval export order has been won by a British yard. Now Swan Hunter are privatized they believe they can get the country back into that field and they ought to be encouraged to do so."

Mr Trotter said that the delay in the AOR order decision would work in Swan Hunter's favour. He also felt that the company would be helped by the Prime Minister's intervention.

"I am advised she is doing everything she can to be helpful."

'Devious' tactics over Bill

A Labour MP accused the Government yesterday of trying to "sneak" by "devious action" its Bill to give the disabled new rights.

Government amendments, which will "tear the heart" from the Disabled Persons Bill, were tabled too late for printing before the Commons adjourned on Monday, Thursday, Mr Tom Clarke, MP for Monklands West, said.

Most MPs will be able to see them only when the House resumes next Tuesday, three days before the next crucial debate, the report stage and third reading on April 11.

Mr Clarke introduced the Bill after winning first place in the ballot of private members' Bills. One sponsor is Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke South and a champion of the disabled.

"The Government is attempting to tear the heart out of a Bill which aims to give basic rights to 3.5 million disabled people and mentally handicapped persons in this country," Mr Clarke said.

Car firm wins £2.4m order

A British car component firm has won a £2.4 million order previously held by a West German manufacturer.

Tudor Webster sunroofs are to be fitted to Austin Rover's Maestro and Montego cars, leading to 20 extra jobs at the company's plant at Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

Grave vandals

The police appealed to the public yesterday for help in finding vandals who toppled 35 gravestones and smashed 15 others at Chilwell cemetery in Nottinghamshire during the Easter weekend.

Eight Britons are planning to sail plastic kayaks down mountain rivers in the Himalayas. They hope to beat American and European teams due to make similar expeditions this summer.

The team, aged between 21 and 31, will be led by Mr Mark Attenborough, aged 29, a physical education teacher at Bungay High School in Suffolk. The party, supported by a mountain rescue expert and a doctor, will set out on the seven-week expedition from a base camp in Northern Pakistan. It will explore the treacherous Gilgit watershed.

The explorers' route will take them into the Karakoram mountain range and down the side of Nanga Parbat, one of the most dangerous peaks in the Himalayas.



Cardinal Hume (left) and Dr Habgood in procession yesterday to York Minster with other church leaders.

A cardinal returns to the minster

Cardinal Basil Hume, the spiritual leader of Roman Catholics in England and Wales, yesterday became the first cardinal to take part in a service at York Minster since the Reformation.

The service, presided over by the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, marked the 400th anniversary of the execution for treason of Margaret Clitherow whom Roman Catholics venerate as a martyr.

Dr Habgood told the congregation of 2,000 that Christians must stop bickering among themselves

and unite to face an increasingly sinful world.

He said: "The religious fortress mentality which keeps us separate from one another, that tempts us to make martyrs of one another, has got to be broken down."

"In a sense we're still paying for the fires and the hangings and the crushings four centuries ago."

The Archbishop's words were relayed by loudspeaker to a crowd of several hundred outside the minster, while inside he and Cardinal Hume were joined by most of Britain's Roman Catholic

bishops and representatives of the Free and Methodist churches.

Earlier they had led a procession of civic leaders and pilgrims to the shrine to Margaret Clitherow in the former butcher's shop run by her husband in the city's historic shambles.

The stepdaughter of one of York's lord mayors, Margaret Clitherow was crushed to death in March 1586 after she refused to plead to charges that she had attended Roman Catholic services and harboured priests. She was canonized on October 25, 1970, by Pope Paul VI.

38 are injured as loyalists riot

Continued from page 1

lic housing, and in the early hours of yesterday nationalists attacked the police and burnt cars.

The security forces appear to have been taken by surprise at the sudden arrival of Mr Paisley who later attacked Sir John Hermon, the RUC Chief Constable, for advising the Secretary of State, Mr Tom King, to ban the parade.

Mr King acted after the Chief Constable told him that the parade had been taken over by paramilitary and subversive elements who had plotted violence and intended to exploit it to cause serious disorder throughout the province.

The decision was criticized by Unionists, but Mr Paisley claimed a victory for his early morning parade in Portadown.

He said: "The people of Portadown can lift up their heads today for the first time since last July. This is our town, it is a Protestant town, and it will continue to be a Protestant town."

Publicity on rates ban starts

Tories attacked over S Africa

A statutory ban on party political advertising by local authorities comes into force today, amid town hall uncertainty over its practical effects.

The prohibition is part of the new Local Government Act, which ministers say will prevent councils indulging in "propaganda on the rates" in opposition to central government policies.

The Act is much less sweeping than original government proposals, which, it was feared, might have made illegal virtually all political statements by councillors to newspapers, radio or television.

But there remains some confusion inside town halls as to what sort of information might fall foul of the Act, and apprehension about what the Government's promised guidelines council publicity may contain.

"Many councils are very nervous about what material will be safe to put out. The legislation is very vague and no one really knows where they stand," an official of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said.

The City of Glasgow District Council has already rewritten its annual budget explanation to ratepayers because of lawyers' worries that the leaflet's original references to high interest rates and government cuts might infringe the Act.

Councils are also afraid that documents such as head teachers' circulars to parents on provision of books and equipment, or housing officers' letters to tenants about repairs, will need to be scrutinized.

The Act specifically bans local authority advertisements "designed to affect public support for a political party". It was prompted by the ill-fated campaign of Labour authorities against rate-capping and abolition of the Greater London Council and metropolitan counties.

Similarly overt political campaigns, such as those by some councils against the Government's nuclear policies and proposed welfare benefit changes, would almost certainly be unlawful in future.

Councils are relieved, however, that what was seen as a catch-all clause to prohibit material that could "reasonably be regarded as likely to affect public support for a political party" was deleted by the House of Lords.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, has said he will seek to restore the effect of the defeated provision next year, but some authorities are hopeful that the operation of the Act will show no further powers are necessary.

Much will depend on the advisory code of conduct being drawn up by Mr William Waldegrave, Minister for the Environment.

He abandoned his original draft - which laid down that all publicity, including Press conference statements and media interviews, must not "attack policies and opinions of other political parties or groups" - after protests from local authority associations.

Meetings with the associations to discuss Mr Waldegrave's latest ideas are due to take place in the next few weeks.

Publicity on rates ban starts

A group of Conservative MPs who want reform in South Africa yesterday asked other MPs for support, only to be branded "a disgrace to the party". The dispute erupted after three members of Conservatives for Fundamental Change in South Africa announced that they had written to "a selected number of colleagues" and had received a "positive response" from more than 50 MPs.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch), Mr Hugh Dykes (Harrow East) and Mr Tim Rathbone (Lewes) said that the fact so many had responded should strengthen the Government's hand with Pretoria.

"Now that formal links have been established between the Government and the African National Congress we shall be inviting London representatives of the ANC, as well as representatives of other bodies, to the Commons to address Conservative MPs," the group said.

The three MPs have just returned from South Africa and said they were extremely worried about what they saw. "It is imperative we make transparently clear to people in South Africa, of every colour and political persuasion, that there are many people in the Conservative

Police in Gadaffi speech inquiry

An alleged former trainee pilot from Libya who telephoned Radio Tripoli from Britain at the weekend used verbatim passages from a speech broadcast two days earlier by Colonel Muammar Gadaffi, police said yesterday.

"Someone with a sense of national pride and solidarity appears to have jumped on the colonel's bandwagon," a Special Branch detective said.

"We cannot take things like this too lightly. We are checking out all the Libyan trainee pilots at Oxford."

The man, identified by The Sunday Times as Adil Masood, claimed to speak on behalf of a group of trainee pilots based at Oxford calling itself the Oxford Revolutionary Force. There are five Libyan pilot trainees and 14 Libyans on aircraft engineering courses at the Oxford air training school.

Two Libyan trainee pilots have been interviewed by Special Branch. The other three will be seen today when they return from the Easter break.

Mr Peter Sharpe, the school's registrar, said yesterday he did not think anyone from the school was connected with the broadcast. "I think the police are of the same opinion, although it is possible the caller was a former student who left here 18 months ago."

Mr Sharpe denied reports that a brother-in-law of Colonel Gadaffi was among the trainees. The report was said to have originated from a Saudi student at the school, but he said there were no Saudis among the pupils.

British crew free

A Norwegian salvage vessel and its crew of 34, taken into custody by the Tunisian navy on March 17, were released yesterday, a border police official said.

The ship and its crew, held for allegedly violating Tun-

sian territorial waters, would be free to leave the port of Bizerte yesterday evening, he said.

The Norwegian-registered Wildrake, with its 20 Norwegian and 14 British crew, were released.

CHANGE OF INTEREST RATES FROM 1st APRIL 1986

	INTEREST	NET GROSS
HIGH OPTION TERM SHARES		
11th ISSUE	8.50%	11.97%
MONEY MASTER ACCOUNT		
FOR BALANCES OF £10,000 AND ABOVE	8.55%	12.04%
FOR BALANCES OF £5,000 TO £9,999	8.30%	11.69%
FOR BALANCES OF £250 TO £4,999	8.05%	11.34%
INVESTING SHARES	6.25%	9.80%
PREFERENCE SHARES	6.00%	8.45%

Rates of Interest on all other Share and Deposit Accounts including previous issues of Term Shares and High Option Term Shares, will be reduced by 1% per annum. S.A.Y.E. accounts remain unchanged. The gross rates shown assume income tax paid at the basic rate of 29%.

MORTGAGES

The specified rate of interest charged on existing Mortgages will be reduced by 0.75% on 1st April or 1st May 1986 in accordance with the terms of the mortgage contract. Differentials charged for endowment mortgages will be removed with effect from 1st April 1986. Details of revised monthly repayments will shortly be sent to those borrowers affected.

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You need to know WHO'S WHO 1986

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High fat levels treble likelihood of heart disease, study shows

Men with high fat levels in their blood run more than three times the risk of a heart attack, and it does not matter what kind of fat it is, according to the results of a British study announced today.

For 10 years doctors around the world have believed that people with a high proportion of one type of cholesterol in their blood would enjoy protection against heart disease. The theory was that this low-fat cholesterol helped remove deposits of more harmful high-fat cholesterol from artery walls, preventing them from clogging up.

But the findings of the British study of almost 8,000 middle-aged men have shown that this way of predicting who is at risk may be useless, at least in Britain.

Researchers analyzed 202 heart attacks among the men over a four-year period, and found that the total amount of cholesterol in the blood was a far more powerful and consistent predictor of risk.

Professor Gerald Shaper, who is running the study from London's Royal Free Hospital, with the help of the British Heart Foundation, said that the old theory might only be valid in countries where total cholesterol levels were low.

In Great Britain, average levels of total cholesterol are high by international standards and this carries a two-fold risk of acute coronary heart disease compared with countries with lower levels, he said.

One message from the study

is that people should eat less fat, yet another survey to be published this week suggests that many family doctors are ignorant about healthy eating.

The survey found that although 99 per cent of GPs give dietary advice to their patients, more than 70 per cent had never heard of the Name report, one of the most widely-publicized official studies on healthy eating, which made specific recommendations for reducing consumption of fat, sugar and salt and increasing intake of starchy foods, cereals and vegetables rich in fibre.

The survey, to be published in GP Magazine, found that even among doctors who recalled these recommendations, only half did so with reasonable accuracy.

Teachers' need for praise

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The Government should stop criticizing teachers on the ground that there was a major crisis of confidence in the education service, a union conference was told yesterday.

Politicians should give praise and thanks from time to time, Mr John Inman, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, told the opening session of the annual conference in Scarborough, North Yorkshire.

In a plea to the Government, Mr Inman said: "Allow the local authorities the freedom in financial terms to negotiate a sensible package for all parties to the Education and Conciliation Advisory Service (Acas) talks. It will cost much more than you have so far indicated."

He said the Government

stood condemned for its "total lack of interest" in resolving the most damaging teachers' dispute in education history. He called on all political parties to make education a priority so that there could be a wide-ranging debate leading to a new Education Act.

The 1944 Act was being flouted and did not meet today's needs, which were a new consensus and appraisal of the rights and responsibilities of all parties, including the Secretary of State for Education and Science, local authorities and schools.

"Legislation at the periphery will not do. The crisis in the service is too deep, the relationship too harmed and distorted for that," Mr Inman said.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science was

empowered under the Act to promote an efficient education service. But Sir Keith Joseph had claimed he had the responsibility but not the power on many issues, he said.

"The fact that a school in Manchester was effectively closed for most of the last two terms did not seem to concern the person who has a duty to promote an efficient service."

The executive of the National Union of Teachers suffered defeat at its annual conference in Blackpool yesterday when members voted to campaign for the abolition of fixed-term teacher contracts. The NUT also gave notice to local authority employers that it would not trade off conditions of service for higher pay in forthcoming Acas negotiations.



Passengers enjoying a burst of spring sunshine in the commercial heavy horses (pairs) entry at The London Harness Horse Parade Society gathering in Regent's Park yesterday.

Pacemaker boy goes home

Mark Clarke, aged three months, who was fitted with a heart pacemaker last Friday, left hospital yesterday.

The boy, weighing 9lb, was allowed home with his mother, Mrs Esther Clarke. He was said to have been making excellent progress after the device was implanted and had

been expected to leave hospital on Sunday, until he developed a slight temperature. Surgeons at the Children's Hospital in Birmingham kept him in overnight for observation.

Mrs Clarke said yesterday: "He used to be so pale but now he has got lovely rosy cheeks." A defective heart had been

diagnosed before the boy was born. It was found to be pumping at 50 beats a minute instead of the normal 110.

The pacemaker, the size of a 50p coin and weighing a few grams, was implanted under the skin in his left armpit, using a technique developed at the hospital.

Disease fear from contact lenses

Doctors in Britain and America are increasingly concerned that extended-wear contact lenses could cause serious eye damage.

There have been several recent cases of patients losing their sight and needing corneal transplants to restore vision after developing serious eye infections, according to medical evidence.

The Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, which deals every month with many cases of disease related to the use of contact lenses, believes that some of the serious infections are related to extended-wear contact lenses.

Mr Roger Buckley, director of the hospital's contact lens department and a member of a government health committee investigating problems associated with soft lenses, said that some operations for corneal grafts had been performed after serious eye infections occurred.

Doctors say that the soft stay-in lenses should be removed to give the eyes a rest once a week, and at the outside once a fortnight, so that they can be cleaned and sterilized to prevent bacteria developing in the eyes. Many people, however, leave their lenses in for weeks and even months on end.

Mr Buckley said that a red, sore eye is the first signal of a problem, and the contact lens user should remove the lenses immediately.

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that three government health committees are investigating the possible dangers of extended-wear contact lenses.

Many doctors believe that the safest type of contact lenses are daily-wear, hard lenses which must be removed and cleaned regularly.

Ski lifts battle of Lurcher's Gully

By Ronald Faux

Proposals to spend more than £2 million on new ski lifts in the Cairngorms in northern Scotland are expected to renew disagreements between developers and conservationists.

Lurcher's Gully, an old area of contention, could again be in dispute.

The Cairngorms Chairlift Company, with the support of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, has disclosed its long-term plans and lodged them with the Highland Regional Council, the planning body, as "an act of good faith".

The company, which serves about 6,500 skiers a day on its Cairngorm lifts, insists its new proposals differ greatly from those rejected by an eight-week public inquiry in 1981. No road would be built into Lurcher's Gully and access would be by ski tow. Downhill skiers say that using the gully would cause the pressure on other parts of the mountain and allow skiers to move from one valley to the next.

The company has proposed an immediate extension to the ski grounds west of Coire Cas and applied for permission to build snow fences to create links with extra ski fields.

The long-term proposals are for a further six ski tow, snow-making machinery and more facilities for visitors. There would be no extensions to the roads or car parking to the west.

The Nature Conservancy Council said there was no conflict about developments to the east of the present downhill ski areas but anything to the west would encroach on the Northern Corries site of special scientific interest. Development of Lurcher's Gully would probably be unacceptable.

Missing girl dead, family believes

The grandmother of the missing schoolgirl Sarah Harper, aged 10, wept yesterday as she said the family believed that the child was dead.

Mrs Marjorie Hopton said: "I believe, and her mum believes, that Sarah is no longer alive."

She pleaded with anyone who may be holding the child or knew of her whereabouts: "We want our baby home. Please let her go."

"I know they will be frightened of being caught but if they leave her somewhere local we will pick her up."

"I am praying that she is not dead, but I am beginning to think the worst after so long. The longer it goes on the more the hope diminishes."

Mrs Hopton was comforted by Woman Police Constable Julie Eastwood while she spoke. The officer has been staying with Sarah's mother, Jackie, who is pregnant.

Mrs Hopton added: "The last four days have been absolute hell. Jackie is doing her best to bear up. She has short spasms where she is normal and then crumbles and goes to pieces again."

She said: "If somebody has got her the damage has been done already, so please let her

go and come home to us and her little sister and brother."

Mrs Hopton said that Sarah had been told always never to go with strangers, especially after being approached 18 months ago and running away. "We always told her to scream and make as much noise as possible."

"We always drilled it into Sarah and her sister. She would never go with strangers and would only go with someone if they were very good friends - people she would call aunty and uncle."

She said that Sarah had made the trip to the corner shop, only 200 yards from her home in Brunswick Place, Morley, near Leeds, many times before last Wednesday, when she vanished.

"Sometimes she would go with her sister and others alone and on occasions she came home from school in the dark, and there was never any trouble."

The man leading the hunt, Det Supt John Stainton, said: "This girl seems to have disappeared into thin air."

"The person responsible is causing a hell of a lot of misery. If anyone knows who has taken her, just turn him in quickly. He just isn't worth shielding."

TV drugs overdose ban sought

Mrs Mary Whitehouse has asked Mr Alisdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, to instruct all television producers to avoid scripts involving graphic drug overdoses.

Mrs Whitehouse, who is president of the National Viewers and Listeners Association, said yesterday that she was still waiting for Mr Milne to publicly apologize for the "irresponsible and ill-conceived" attempted drug overdose shown last month on the series *EastEnders*.

She claimed that the episode, in which one of the characters, Angie, swallows tablets and gin, inspired a spate of similar incidents.

Mrs Whitehouse said that a letter from a doctor and nurse at Hackney hospital, east London, published in *The Lancet* on March 22, claimed there had been a 300 per cent increase in drug overdose cases admitted to the hospital that week.

Youth on rat rabies charge

A French youth accused of breaking the anti-rabies laws by smuggling his pet rat into Britain, was remanded on bail until Friday by Marlborough Street Magistrates Court, yesterday.

Nicolas Costandi, aged 17, was charged with illegally landing the rat, aged five weeks, at Dover on Good Friday. He was arrested in King's Road, Chelsea, on Saturday. The rat has been destroyed.

Mother and quins 'stable'

The world's first test-tube quintuplets were in a "stable and satisfactory" condition yesterday in hospital in London.

Mrs Linda Jacobsen, aged 31, the mother of the five boys, was also said by University College Hospital, London, to be "satisfactory" after giving birth by Caesarean section last Wednesday.

Milestone for Pump Room

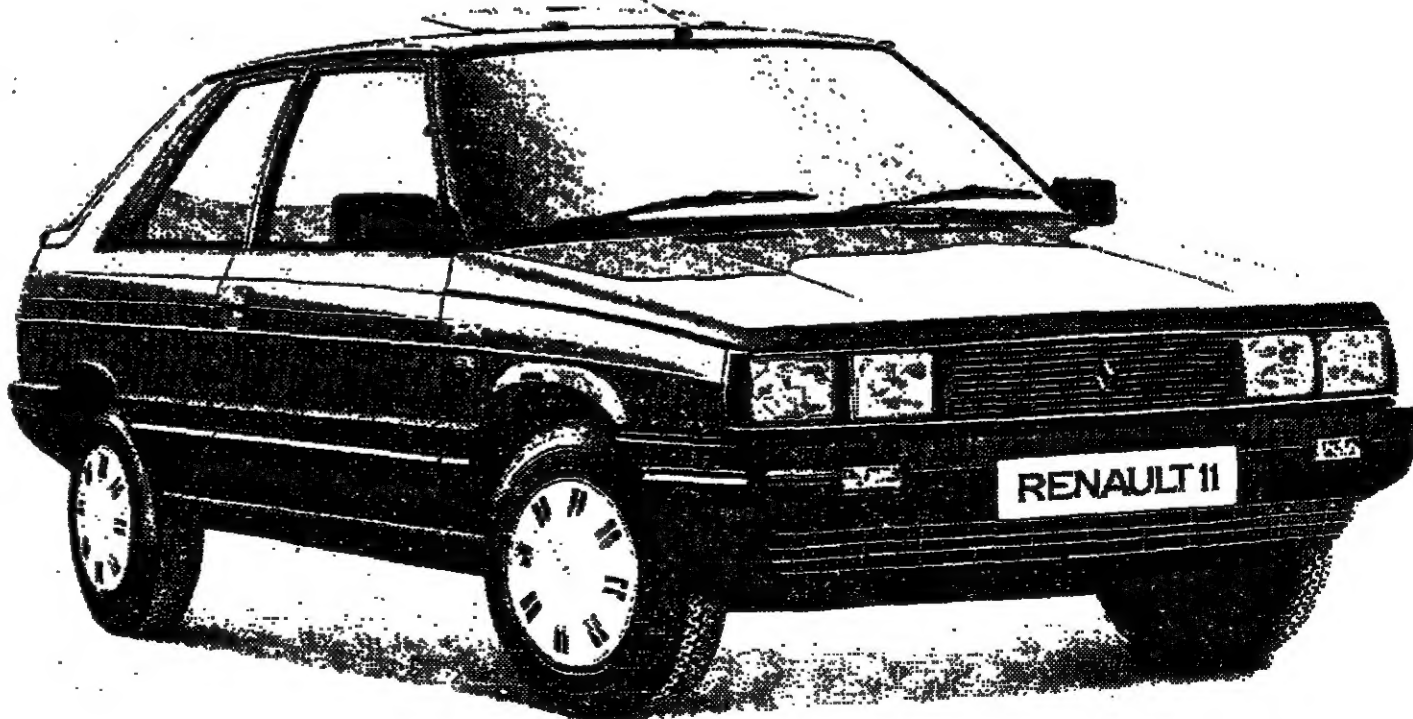
Mrs Sonia Monaghan, from Reigate, Surrey, who is on holiday with her family in the Cotswolds, visited the Pump Room at Bath yesterday and found herself greeted by delighted city council officials as the attraction's millionth visitor this financial year.

The record figure makes the Pump Room Britain's second most popular tourist attraction after the Tower of London.

Sea protest

Greenpeace protesters plan to release 1,000 coloured wooden discs into the Irish Sea off Sellafield today to demonstrate that waste from the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant contaminates populated areas of coastline.

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Finance charges (4.95% p.a.)	671.88		
36 monthly payments of*	144.33		
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Without curbing any of your desires.



Mr and Mrs Burling at their wedding yesterday.

Donor cards for guests

The 400 guests at the wedding yesterday of Miss Pauline McLaughlin and the dozens of villagers who watched, were handed kidney donor cards.

Miss McLaughlin, aged 22, of Bishopclee, near Glasgow, who married Mr Will Burling at the local Roman Catholic Church, was given a new kidney in a transplant operation last October.

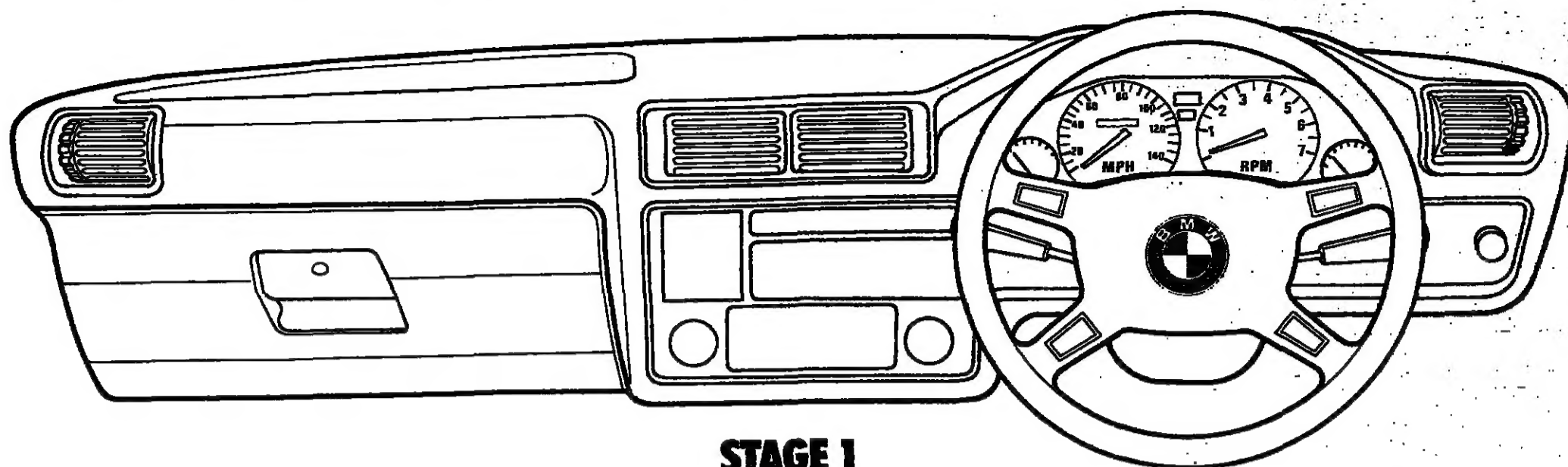
Her father, Mr John McLaughlin, said: "My wife and I cannot thank the person who gave a kidney that say

daughter might live". But he decided that he could ask everyone at the wedding to sign a donor card.

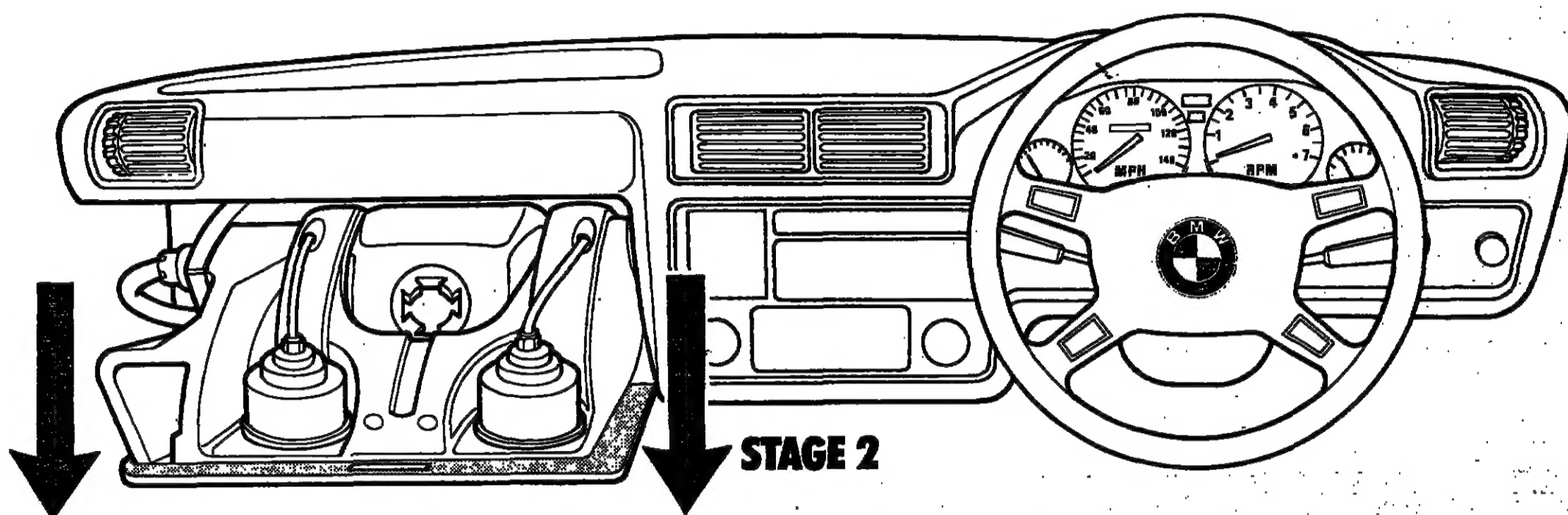
Mr McLaughlin said that his daughter suffered kidney failure in 1983. The couple became engaged when his daughter started dialysis treatment, but marriage was not in prospect until last October when a suitable kidney became available.

A week after the operation "life had become so transformed for Pauline that she and Will were able to set a date", Mr McLaughlin said.

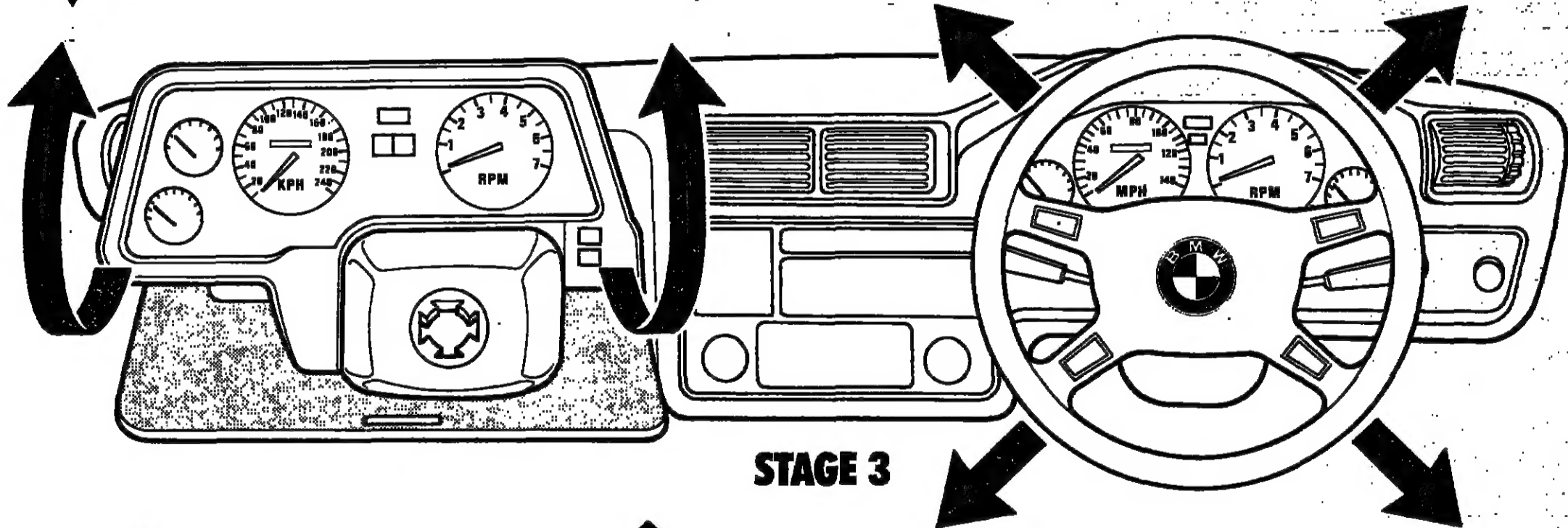
WHEN YOU CROSS THE CHANNEL, OUR STEERING WHEEL CROSSES OVER WITH YOU.



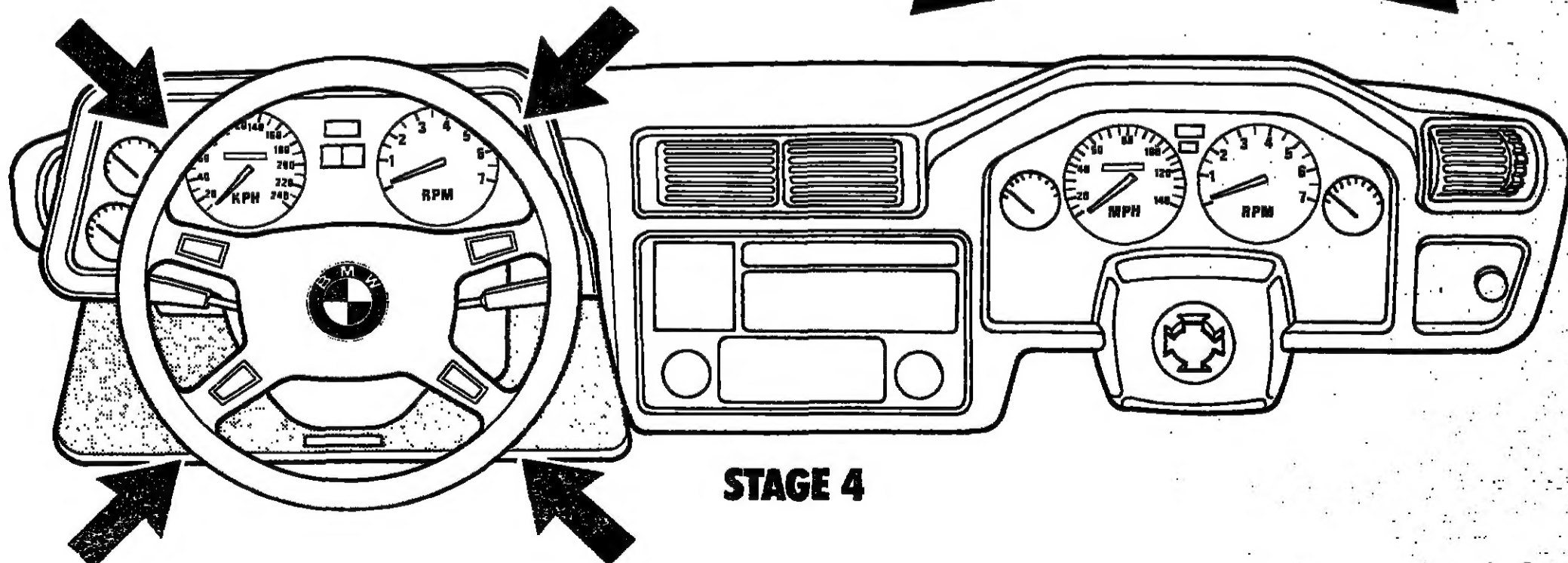
STAGE 1



STAGE 2



STAGE 3



STAGE 4

Since the 'Droit de Seigneur' act, passed in 1867, the French have always driven on the right-hand side of the road.

This is not merely a matter of inconvenience for British drivers; it is also a potential safety hazard. And yet car manufacturers have been ignoring the problem completely.

With one notable exception. Because BMW engineer Aap Rilfuhl discovered, just three years ago, that the problem could be tackled; and, with ingenious modifications, a test vehicle was designed that incorporated a unique BMW feature – the multi-dashboard facility.

By incorporating a second-unit steering wheel socket and instrument panel into a conventional

glove compartment, Dr Rilfuhl was able to provide the basis for a secondary driving position.

The fascia, naturally enough, conforms to 'Continental' standards – with a kph speedometer, and the 'Lawson' fuel gauge reading in litres.

Then, by the insertion of a lynch-pin into the steering wheel column, fellow engineer Hans Grabben was able to devise the first quick-release steering wheel. (Incorporated, too, into the column is a secondary 'Continental' horn – the 'Vorin-Drivers' 80 decibel air-horn.)

The final problem, of the foot-pedals, was easily resolved; Herr Grabben made them transferable, too, with a dual position facility.

At present, this option is only available on the

BMW 3 Series, but it is expected to be available on all models in time for the proposed opening of the Channel tunnel.

And then, for the first time, British drivers will be able to drive abroad without getting on the wrong side of the natives.

To: Uwe Adjuri-Eggpühld, BMW (GB) Ltd, Ellesfield Avenue, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 4TA.
Please send me more details of the BMW multi-dashboard facility.
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Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

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Public right to inspect council minutes comes into force today

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The public gains the right to inspect the minutes of all council meetings and background papers and reports under the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985, which comes into force today. The Act is being hailed as the "first legislative success" of the Campaign for Freedom of Information, the all-party pressure group launched 16 months ago under the chairmanship of Mr Des Wilson.

To obtain in that time a full-scale piece of legislation, an Act to make local authorities more accountable, is a real achievement, he said.

The Act, which originated in a private member's bill introduced by Mr Robin Squire, Conservative MP for Hornchurch, means that except where there is a genuine need for confidentiality, the public must be admitted to council subcommittee meetings at which most decisions are made.

If the public is excluded it must not be for an ill-defined reason, such as "public interest", but because one of the conditions specified for exemption in the Act is fulfilled.

Such exemptions include information relating to an individual's personal affairs; to crime investigation; to the council's negotiations on contracts and collective agreements; and to legal proceedings involving the council.

The public will have the right to see the minutes not just of full council meetings, but also of committees and subcommittees.

There will be a right also of access to all reports discussed at all meetings, unless the confidentiality provisions apply, and to inspect background papers to the public sections of any committee's agenda. That covers research reports, interim reports, letters and memoranda.

The Act also strengthens the position of individual councillors, giving them wider rights of access to information, based on the principle of "need to know".

Local authorities will also have to publish the names and addresses of all councillors and committee members, and a summary of the rights conferred by the Act.

Some councils have already implemented the Act's provisions and others were committed to doing so before the legislation was enacted.

The Freedom of Information Campaign is launching an educational programme to ensure that the Act is fully understood. Its next aim is to obtain legislation giving a right of access to personal files.

The Data Protection Act, 1984, contains such a right where information is stored on computer and the campaign wants that to be extended to other files.

Battling Marcos returns to fray

Manila (AP) —

Former President Marcos of the Philippines, in a tape recording, denied charges of corruption, accused US Government elements of aiding in his overthrow, and indicated for the first time he would return to his homeland.

"We must war again against the monster who imposes slavery," Mr Marcos said in a taped telephone call to a supporter. In a letter addressed to "My beloved Filipino countrymen" he wrote: "Remain united so that we will see each other again."

Mr Marcos, now living in Hawaii, accused President Aquino of lusting for wealth and power, imposing a dictatorship and locking her followers to lock his palace and try on his wife's dresses.

"Cry, my beloved people... There is trouble ahead in the land, trouble that reaches into every corner," he said in his taped statement.

On the lawn of his Honolulu home after Easter Mass on Sunday, he said he still considered himself president and that the "coup" that toppled him was apparently helped by "elements of the American Government."

In a message from the US Embassy to the Office of Media Affairs the duty officer in the US Embassy threatened the use of Marines, United States Marines, against Marcos to prevent President Marcos from utilizing his superior military power against the rebels," he said.

Mr Marcos said charges that he owned property in the United States and keeps deposits in Swiss banks were "lies dreamed up by those who are scheming to get rich."

A family Easter picnic planned for Sunday was cancelled after Secret Service agents objected to its size and the city said it could not be held in a park. Friends and relatives joined them for Mass, after which Mr Marcos and his wife, Imelda, sang



Former President Marcos and his wife Imelda, speaking after Easter Mass in Honolulu

reinstated ousted local officials.

● SAN FRANCISCO: Nearly \$10 million taken from the New York branch of the Philippine National Bank has been used by the Marcos family, the *San Francisco Examiner* reported. The money included \$1.08 million for two parties held by Mrs Marcos at New York's Waldorf Towers.

"You'll Never Walk Alone." Meanwhile, in Manila yesterday, 80 former MPs from the New Society Movement of Mr Marcos said they would convene a symbolic National Assembly session to protest against Mrs Aquino's decision to abolish the body.

Outside the presidential palace some 1,000 protesters urged President Aquino to

reinstated ousted local officials.

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Outside the presidential palace some 1,000 protesters urged President Aquino to

44 die in Frelimo plane crash

Maputo (AFP, AP) —

The wife of General Alberto Chipande, Mozambique's Minister of Defence, was one of 44 people who died when an Air Force transport crashed shortly after take-off on Sunday.

The ruling Frelimo Party said that Mrs Maria Chipande, a founding member of the organization — the Mozambique Liberation Front which led the independence war against the Portuguese colonial authorities prior to 1975 — died in the crash near the north-eastern town of Pemba.

Five people survived the crash and all were said to be in serious condition.

The dead included three Soviet crew, three administrators of the Mueda and Palma districts in Cabo Delgado on the Tanzanian border, a woman MP and three regional Frelimo officials.

The Mozambique News Agency said the cause of the crash appeared to be engine trouble and there was no indication of sabotage or military attack.

Civil war over, says Museveni

Kampala (Reuters) —

President Museveni, announcing the end of years of civil war in Uganda, has proclaimed national reconciliation to be the chief task facing the country.

His statement followed the capture last week by the National Resistance Army of the north-western town of Arua, the last important outpost still in the hands of soldiers loyal to the ousted head of state, General Tito Okello.

Uganda radio quoted Mr Museveni as telling senior government officials and religious leaders that with the end of the "liberation war" to restore peace and democracy in the country after five years of "struggle", reconciliation must begin.

"The plan is not only to eradicate armed criminals, but also to clean all government institutions," he was quoted as saying.

"The main task... after pushing bad elements out of the country is to unite the entire population and install a government for the people, unlike past regimes which were destabilizing the nation."

President Museveni added that the new government planned to embark on a national recovery programme.

Thousands defy ban at memorial

Johannesburg (AP) —

Defying a ban on outdoor gatherings, about 20,000 blacks yesterday attended a memorial service for Moses Mabhida, a black nationalist and Communist Party leader who died in exile in Mozambique on March 8.

The service was held in a football stadium in Zwille, a township outside Port Elizabeth. Security forces were deployed near the stadium, but did not interfere.

During the four-hour service, Mr Mkhulesi Jack, a prominent anti-apartheid activist, announced that a consumer boycott of white-owned businesses in Port Elizabeth would resume on April 7.

Mr Mabhida, who was buried with military honours on Saturday in Maputo, was general secretary of the South African Communist Party and a member of the executive committee of the African National Congress.

The signs are that Lesotho's new rulers, while much more realistic than Chief Jonathan about their room for manoeuvre, will not be wholly subservient to Pretoria. The new Minister of Law, Mr Khakhalo Sello, for example, is a left-wing lawyer who was imprisoned for two years in South Africa in the 1960s for pro-ANC political activities.

An immediate benefit of the less tense relations between Maseru and Pretoria should be the signing soon of a long-awaited agreement on the ambitious Highlands Water Project.

A vast complex of dams, tunnels and pumps that will cost at least £1,300 million and take 25 years to build, it will enable Lesotho to generate its own electricity and earn valuable income by exporting water to South Africa.

Concluded

CBI call to back youth job scheme

The Government's new £1 billion two-year Youth Training Scheme must succeed if Britain is to match its industrial competitors, the Confederation of British Industry says today.

Mr Hamish Orr-Ewing, chairman of the CBI's education and training committee, speaking on the day the scheme starts, says: "We have to make sure that the time, money, energy and imagination required by the new YTS is put to the best possible use."

He says: "The new scheme must be successful if Britain is to match its industrial competitors, and if our young people are to have the same chance of starting as well equipped for work as their contemporaries in other major industrial countries."

In a message to employers Mr Orr-Ewing says that the scheme puts "new and quite heavy demands on employers". The increased contribution could be looked upon as an investment "for the future of our young people."

Mr Orr-Ewing, who urges support for the new YTS

Attacked teenager 'critical'

A boy, aged 17, on holiday

from Stoke-on-Trent was in a critical condition on a life-support machine in a North Wales hospital yesterday, after being assaulted outside an Aberglaslyn nightspot.

The incident happened at 1am on Sunday but it was not until later in the day that the boy, who has not been named, suddenly became ill and was rushed to Glyn Clwyd Hospital, Bodelwyddan.

Police said that the boy was with a friend who was staying with him at a local caravan park when he was punched.

Det Chief Supt Gwyn Owen, of North Wales CID, said: "It appears to have been an entirely unprovoked assault."

Trinder ill

Tommy Trinder, aged 77, the comedian, has been ordered to rest for six months after collapsing at his home in Sunbury-on-Thames, Surrey. He had been due to appear at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Thursday.

Royal bloom

Gardeners at the Sandringham Estate in Norfolk have cultivated a new fuchsia, called Royal Silk, in the Queen's racing colours of gold, purple and red. The foliage is gold and the flowers red and purple.

Saw death

Mr Steven Rendell, aged 31, of Longsight, Hampshire, died in hospital on Sunday night after an accident with a chainsaw, which caught him in the throat as he worked outside his home.

Man drowns

A man, believed to be aged 19, from Bury, Greater Manchester, drowned in rough seas near Blackpool's central pier late on Sunday night. A body was washed up later.

Royal opening for new terminal at Heathrow

Heathrow Airport's fourth terminal is officially opened today but it will be 12 months before any aircraft or passengers are able to use it.

Workers spent all weekend putting finishing touches to the £200-million building ready for a tour by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Scores of staff are expected to man many of the 64 check-in desks, banks, shops and other areas, to give an indication of how it will look. Even the stores that the royal couple will pass have been stocked.

The couple will arrive by Underground and spend an hour touring the half-mile wide building, which has taken 15 years to plan and build and was at one time Europe's largest construction site. They will then attend an official lunch in the departure area.

The terminal will increase Heathrow's capacity from 30 to 38 million passenger movements a year, reinforcing its role as the world's most important international airport.

Built on the south side of the site, away from the other three terminals, Terminal 4 will be able to handle 2,000 passengers an hour in each direction.

Although the building is effectively finished, it will not be opened until April 12 for British Airways' intercontinental, Amsterdam and Paris services. KLM, NLM and Air Malta will also use the terminal.

Crown prosecution service: 2

Police hand over to lawyers

From today a network of Crown prosecutors takes over responsibility from the police for prosecuting crime. A key feature of the system will be a transfer of power to the regions from the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in London. In the second of two articles Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at how the system will work.

A radical change in the way some of the most serious crimes such as rape and murder are prosecuted takes effect today with the introduction of the new Crown prosecution service in six metropolitan areas outside London.

The nationwide network of chief Crown prosecutors and their teams of prosecuting lawyers will take over responsibility for the prosecution of all crimes after police have instituted proceedings.

But they will also take on responsibility for prosecuting some of the most serious offences, which hitherto have had to be referred to the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Crimes now to be handled locally include murder cases, which are straightforward; multiple rape cases; causing death by reckless driving when the deceased is a near relative; robberies where firearms are used and injury is caused and large-scale robberies.

Only the most complex cases, as well as those of public interest — political or terrorist crimes, official secrets cases, company fraud and race relations prosecutions — will have to go through the DPP's office, which will head the new prosecution service.

The policy change will mean a cut of at least half in the 14,000 cases a year now referred for advice or consent

desired effect of weeding out poor cases.

Those in charge are confident, however. The DPP, Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, says that instructions to the prosecutors will emphasize the need for independence from the police, and not being improperly influenced.

Mr David Gandy, a former chief prosecuting solicitor and now head of field management in the service, said: "We set off very much with a willingness from police to make it work, make it efficient and only to charge those cases where there is a reasonable chance of conviction."

He added that if the prosecutors let a case proceed which should not do so, there would be criticism from judges when it came to court, "rightly so, because in the final analysis this is about improving the criminal justice system."

A second improvement under the new service will be time limits on the various stages in bringing a case to trial, similar to the 110-day rule which applies in Scotland. Pilot projects were set up in November in Bristol, Birmingham, Maidstone and Southwark to determine the most suitable time limits for periods of remand or bail.

Cases not brought to court within the limits would face being thrown out.

As a result of huge delays for defendants awaiting trial, it is hoped, he cut.

Concluded

Chief Jonathan was helped into power by the South Africans, was the first leader of an independent black African state to confer with a South African prime minister, and in his early days was suspected widely of being little

more than Pretoria's puppet. His image changed as he shrewdly realized that international sympathy, and aid, could be drummed up by playing the role of plucky little Lesotho versus the South African Goliath, a posture that also had the merit of diverting attention from his declining popularity at home.

But geography and economics dictate that Lesotho cannot survive for long without a working arrangement with South Africa, by which it is totally enclosed. Up to 30 per cent of Lesotho's male population work in South African mines, remitting sizeable funds home, and all its electricity comes from the Republic.

The most visible change under the new Government in Maseru, in which power seems to be shared by the Army

Zimbabwe sells maize to S Africa

From Jan Raath

Harare

Zimbabwe, with abundant stocks of maize from a season of relatively good rains, is in the midst of despatching an order for 200,000 tons to South Africa. Agricultural authorities here expect a further order for another 100,000 tons.

Intense lobbying over the method of payment is continuing, but agricultural sources say that as matters stand half will be paid in foreign currency and the remainder by barter, in terms of tractors, lubricating oils and spares.

If the second order is forthcoming, Zimbabwe can earn roughly £30 million, with the maize being sold well above the local price of £75 a ton.

South Africa has suffered severely from poor and late rains in its maize areas this season, as well as from a plague of locusts.

South African experts have estimated that the remains of this year's crop will be harvested only in June. The contract for the supply of Zimbabwean maize ends on April 24, and sources say they believe Zimbabwe will be called on again to fill the gap between the April deadline and the June harvest.

South African bulk maize wagons are being loaded now for shipment direct to Transvaal milling companies.

The contract contains a double irony. South Africa, whose President Botha has frequently dismissed its black-ruled neighbours as incapable of feeding themselves, has joined the perennial food deficit in three days of fighting in which heavy machine guns, mortars and anti-tank weapons were used.

Most of the camps' 20,000 residents were believed to be still sheltering indoors or in underground bunkers.

Area: 11,700 sq miles.

Population: 1.5 million, of which about 70 per cent are Christian.

Official languages: Sesotho and English.

History: Moshoeshoe I, founder of Basuto nation, born in 1786. Lesotho annexed by Britain in 1868. Independence granted on October 4, 1966.

Economy: Gross national product \$426 million; per capita income (official 1983/84 figures) \$290. Manufacturing accounts for only 7 per cent of gross domestic product and agriculture (wool and mohair are exported) for about 30 per cent. The rest is contributed by the earnings of the 140,000 Basutos who work in South African mines.

Less advertised has been the deportation of around 100 members of the outlawed African National Congress to Zambia. Their presence had long been a bone of contention between Pretoria and Chief Jonathan, and led to a South African raid on alleged ANC houses in Maseru in December 1982.

South Africa is reported to be pressing for the expulsion of another 40 or so ANC

Premier seeking help for recovery plan

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, left for Washington yesterday for a three-day visit during which he will discuss ways of reviving the Middle East peace process.

Little dramatic is expected from the visit, the main purpose of which is to enable Mr Peres to take part in the jubilee celebrations of the World Jewish Congress later this week in New York.

But he will be using the opportunity to discuss the peace process with Vice-President Bush and the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz. He will not meet President Reagan, who is on holiday in California.

Other likely topics include Israel's participation in the Star Wars programme and what the press here has dubbed Mr Peres's "Middle East Marshall Plan".

Under it pro-Western countries in the region, which, Mr Peres fears, could be destabilized by upheavals resulting from plummeting oil prices would receive financial aid from the US and other Western industrial countries.

Given the recent cuts in US programmes, Mr Peres is not expected to come back with much in the way of immediate economic aid to Israel, particularly as the Americans are not likely to approve the \$350 million (£230 million) rescue package he rammed through his Cabinet on Sunday to bail out the country's largest building company, Solel Boneh, the founding health fund of the Histadrut (labour federation) and the embattled cotton farmers.

placed under curfew for several hours after a fire bomb attack on an Israeli patrol.

An Army spokesman said a student was wounded when soldiers opened fire on the West Bank to disperse about 100 demonstrators at the Bir Zeit University campus, 30 miles from Tel Aviv.

He said Israeli soldiers threw tear gas canisters and fired over the heads of protesters who were throwing stones at Israeli vehicles.

One student, who ignored the soldiers' orders to leave the area, was shot in the leg and taken to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

The Army described the incident as "routine".

In a second demonstration at a teachers' college in Ramallah near by, women students unfurled Palestinian flags and stoned Israeli vehicles.

Major-General Lekhanya insists that Lesotho will continue to offer asylum to "pennine refugees" from South Africa, of whom there are some 11,000 already in the kingdom. There is thus the potential for continuing dispute with Pretoria, which uses the term "terrorist" loosely.

The new Government also says that it does not intend closing down the Soviet, Chinese, North Korean and other Communist embassies which angered South Africa when

they were opened in Maseru under Chief Jonathan. Relations with South Korea, suspended under the previous government, have been restored, however, and some North Korean technicians sent home.

The signs are that Lesotho's new rulers, while much more realistic than Chief Jonathan about their room for manoeuvre, will not be wholly subservient to Pretoria. The new Minister of Law, Mr Khakhalo Sello, for example, is a left-wing lawyer who was imprisoned for two years in South Africa in the 1960s for pro-ANC political activities.

An immediate benefit of the less tense relations between Maseru and Pretoria should be the signing soon of a long-awaited agreement on the ambitious Highlands Water Project.

A vast complex of dams, tunnels and pumps that will cost at least £1,300 million and take 25 years to build, it will enable Lesotho to generate its own electricity and earn valuable income by exporting water to South Africa.

Concluded

Concluded

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← Terminal 2

← Terminal 3

Terminal 4 →

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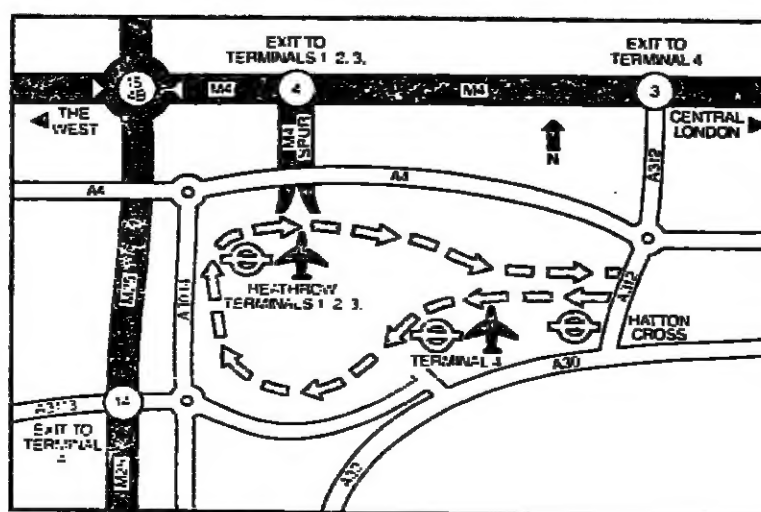
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Gorbachov accuses Reagan

Bitter Soviet tirade over US supply of missiles to rebels

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The war of words between the superpowers escalated yesterday when the Kremlin launched a bitter attack on the US over reports that it has been supplying Afghan and Angolan insurgents with Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

And last night Mr Mikhail Gorbachov accused the Reagan Administration of acting with "cynical cruelty" in its "interference" in the affairs of Nicaragua, Angola, Libya and other countries.

Addressing a Kremlin dinner for the visiting President Samora Machel of Mozambique, Mr Gorbachov said: "Your country feels all the consequences of the crisis situation that has developed in the south of Africa. There is no need to prove that its chief source lies in the aggressive policy of the racist Pretoria regime, backed by the United States and its allies."

Speaking only hours before the deadline set for the unilateral moratorium on Soviet nuclear tests - now extended until the next US test - Mr Gorbachov repeated his call to President Reagan to join him for talks on a test-ban treaty.

The Russians have also dismissed as "hypocritical" the call by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, for a

return to quiet diplomacy.

In what appeared to be a

defiant response to Mr

Shultz's plea for private

conversations rather than public

pronouncements, the Kremlin

announced plans for a news

conference today on Mr

Gorbachov's call on Saturday

for an emergency summit to

discuss a nuclear test ban.

The conference is expected

to become another televised

forum for a series of attacks on

American policy.

Yesterday Tass accused the

US of intensifying its policy of

"breeding regional conflicts

and blocking peaceful settle-

ment in the trouble spots of

the world, notably Central

America, southern Africa, the

Middle East and Asia," and

condemned Washington over

reports that it was supplying

advanced weaponry to Afghan

and Angolan rebels.

"The White House de-

scribes bandits - whom it

lavishly supplies with weap-

ons - by a lofty-sounding

word: 'freedom fighters'. This

word-juggling act, however,

cannot conceal the fact that in

reality Washington befriends

hardened criminals, profes-

sional hangmen and

terrorists."

Tass said the missiles would

be delivered via Pakistan.

"Washington, obviously in-

tends to wage war by proxy.

The Zia-ul-Haq regime should

realize into what dangerous

ventures Pakistan's overseas

patrons are trying to draw that

country, with results which

could be disastrous for it."

The call from Mr Shultz

which has prompted the

Kremlin's anger was made to

reporters travelling home with

him from a four-nation Euro-

pean tour. He said Mr

Gorbachov's broadcast on

Saturday was part of a new

Kremlin pattern of delivering

new proposals in public. "We

are never going to get any-

where that way."

Yesterday Tass issued a

tough rejoinder to what it

described as a plea from Mr

Shultz for a return to "calm

and purposeful discussion of

problems" and "a revival of

the progress" achieved in the

period preceding November's

Geneva summit.

"However," the agency

said, "on the eve of his trip, at

a meeting with ultra right-

wing organizations, the same

Shultz announced massive

new arms deliveries to all sorts

of gangs in various parts of

the world, with the help of which

the CIA is trying to overthrow

legitimate governments which

pursue a policy unsuitable to

Washington."

Tass said the missiles would

be delivered via Pakistan.

"Washington, obviously in-

tends to wage war by proxy.

The Zia-ul-Haq regime should

realize into what dangerous

ventures Pakistan's overseas

patrons are trying to draw that

country, with results which

could be disastrous for it."

Demonstrators using logs charge a perimeter fence of a nuclear recycling plant at Wackersdorf, West Germany, yesterday during an Easter rally attended by 30,000 people. Police used water cannon and irritant gas against some of the protesters.

Cairo goes it alone over Libya

From A Correspondent Cairo

Egypt has signalled that despite its differences with Colonel Gaddafi Cairo has no intention of being dragged into any US-sponsored military action against his regime.

In an article by Mr Ibrahim Nafeh, the paper's chairman and a confidant of President Mubarak, the semi-official al-Ahram paper said yesterday that the US had three times suggested that Egypt join its military action against Libya. Each time Egypt refused.

Asked about the report, the outgoing US Ambassador, Mr Nicholas Velonis, said he had not seen it, and added: "Don't believe everything you read in the press."

The article appears to be aimed at pre-empting attacks by Libyan sympathizers angry about the recent US action, and as a signal to the Arabs that Egypt's close ties with Washington will not stop its independence of action.

Sudan scraps Egypt links as a Nimeiry irrelevance

Khartoum (Reuters) - Sudan has decided to dissolve the institutions set up under its 1982 integration agreement with Egypt, which it considers an extravagant and irrelevant legacy from deposed President Jaafar Nimeiry.

The Cabinet took the decision on Sunday on the ground that the integration "was an act imposed from above which did not express the joint interests of the two peoples," the official Sudan news agency Sana said.

The integration process has been largely in abeyance since the overthrow of Mr Nimeiry last April and the significance of the announcement was seen as more symbolic than practical.

A shift in Sudanese foreign policy towards Egypt's arch-enemy Libya has accelerated in recent weeks in line with increased Libyan military assistance against rebels in the south of the country.

The Cabinet kept its lines of

communication with Cairo open, however, saying the ministers "affirmed the integration principle as a historic, cultural and day-to-day reality and the aspiration of the two brotherly peoples."

Co-ordination and joint economic projects with Egypt would continue and Sudan would contact Cairo to explain and clarify its decision, Sana said.

The main practical effect of the decision is that the heads and employees of the integration bureaucracy will retire or return to their original jobs in the civil service.

The Supreme Integration Council, which grouped the heads of state of Egypt and Sudan, has not met in that form since General Abdurrahman Swareddahab took power from Mr Nimeiry after a popular uprising in April.

A Nile Valley Parliament, declared officially frozen by the Cabinet on Sunday, has

also been inactive since the former president fled to Egypt.

Egypt's refusal to extradite Mr Nimeiry for trial and Sudanese dissatisfaction with the integration process soured ties with Cairo in the early months of the new government but a series of high-level visits succeeded in restoring normal relations by last autumn.

Sana said the issue would be referred to the Constituent Assembly which will emerge from general elections starting tomorrow.

CAIRO: Mr Osama Baz, the presidential adviser, said yesterday that relations between Egypt and Sudan were good and normal despite Khartoum's decision to scrap joint institutions.

"There is no sense of crisis between us and Sudan. Our relations are normal and good and we could reach an understanding on this or any other issue," Mr Baz told reporters after meeting with President Mubarak.

Canadian senator calls off his fast

Ottawa - Senator Jacques Hébert drank a glass of grapefruit juice, ending a three-week hunger strike on behalf of unemployed Canadian youth (John Best writes).

The 62-year-old Liberal got up his fast after a former Liberal minister, Mr Jean Chrétien, promised to seek ways to revive an axed youth programme.

Beatle mania in Russia

Moscow (AP) - Copies of two Beatles albums were an immediate sellout in their debut at Soviet record stores over the weekend, officials of the state recording company Melodiya said.

This is the first time Melodiya has received official sanction to produce Beatles LPs.

Silence ends

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) - The Vatican has lifted a one-year sentence of silence imposed last May on the Brazilian Franciscan priest, Father Leonard Boff, a leading exponent of liberation theology, informed sources said here.

Soviet scandal

Moscow (Reuters) - A number of senior officials, including ministers, were sacked after a Turkmenistan cotton scandal involving falsified figures which cost the state about \$37 million, Pravda said.

Hotel riot

Leerdam (AFP) - Dutch police are investigating a weekend riot that burst down a hotel where right-wing groups were holding a meeting.

Sea rescue

Troisdorf, West Germany (AP) - The West German ship Cap Anamur II rescued 100 "boat people" in the South China Sea, a private humanitarian organization said.

Clip joints

Seoul (AFP) - Seventeen barber shop owners were arrested here and 87 women employees sent to a re-education camp on charges of prostitution. Police raided 145 all-night shops.

Scientists could verify bomb tests

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Looking beyond the present Soviet-American propaganda duel, government-appointed experts from 32 states, including the two superpowers and Britain, have produced a report saying that international seismic monitoring of underground nuclear tests can be assured with technical improvements to existing or planned national installations.

The experts, meeting under the auspices of the UN Disarmament Conference, assessed results of a two-month experiment involving 75 seismic stations in 37 countries and found that 50 seismicological stations around

the globe could ensure reliable identification of tests, provided they had modern digital characteristics. For a few countries the present link to the World Meteorological Organization network, which transmits data to international processing centres, must be improved.

The experts hope that an efficient seismic network, even without on-site inspection, may lead to a lowering of at least 50 per cent of the yield set in the 1974 test ban treaty. This would pave the way towards a test ban.

Analysis advanced. According to this new report, recent progress in electronic detection and computer analysis make it possible to build a reliable monitoring network. If the network could pinpoint explosions down to 15 kilotonnes, it would totally rule out clandestine tests (our Science Editor writes).

Improvements in the electronic devices have increased sensitivity. But the most important advance has been in computer analysis. The problem to solve was identifying man-made disturbances from the thousands of natural events picked up by seismic instruments.

Gunpowder clue to Palme killing

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Police hunting the assassin of Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, were in more optimistic mood yesterday as they held a surprise bank holiday press conference to show the type of murder weapon they are searching for.

Mr Hans Holmer, the Stockholm police chief, posed for photographers holding long and short-barrelled versions of a Smith and Wesson .357 Magnum revolver. "We are certain this was the sort of gun used," he said.

Mr Holmer said two microscopic particles of gunpowder had been found on the arm of a jacket worn by Victor Gunnarsson, the man previously charged with the murder but released because of lack of evidence.

Mr Gunnarsson, aged 32, is now in protective custody at a secret address.

Mr Holmer refused to comment on the significance of the gunpowder particles. The jacket was still being analysed by experts.

He said there had been no

further interrogation of Mr Gunnarsson, a former member of the extreme right-wing European Workers' Party, which had conducted a virulent campaign against Mr Palme, including the publication of an alleged "missing chapter of his life" in which it was claimed his family had Nazi links.

Mr Holmer reminded reporters that a reward of \$50,000 would be paid for information leading to the arrest of the assassin. "I am free," he added with a smile. He said recovery of the weapon was always vital in a murder hunt.

Police are now analysing the results of aerial photography of central Stockholm carried out at the weekend by a Swedish Air Force Viggen jet fighter equipped with an infra-red camera.

Mr Holmer said police were now certain that the spot where Mr Palme was shot on February 28 was chosen on impulse by the killer.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Poland: Wieslaw Pyzio

By Caroline Moorehead

Wieslaw Pyzio is one of about 200 people in prison in Poland for having taken part in non-violent political protests.

Most have been charged with printing or distributing illegal unofficial literature or with belonging to an illegal organization - generally, Solidarity, the banned trade union.

Mr Pyzio is 26, and a sawmill worker. He first came to the attention of the authorities soon after the imposition of martial law in December 1981, when he was arrested and jailed for three years for distributing samizdat literature. He was released under the amnesty of July 1983.

But in June 1985 he was again arrested.

In July, a regional court in Wroclaw, in southern Poland, sentenced him to two and a half years in prison.

Waldheim's other roles

Belgrade (AFP) - The Belgrade newspaper Vencenje Novosti yesterday published further extracts from a 1947 Yugoslav State Commission file on the alleged war activities of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the former UN Secretary-General.

The file said that the then Wehrmacht lieutenant, according to witnesses, was not merely an interpreter as he claims, but had quite different functions. One witness, Johan Mayer, had told the commission that Lieutenant Waldheim was officially an aide-camp, but in fact carried out

the functions of an intelligence officer.

Another witness, Markus Hani, said that Lieutenant Waldheim was in charge of Greece, and then Serbia. His job was to analyse enemy forces, the positions and organization of partisans and the state of public opinion. He also had a map of the situation in Russia.

Dr Waldheim, who is standing in the Austrian presidential elections on Friday, has maintained that he is totally innocent of any war crimes.

Doubts on Svetlana's visa

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

It was confirmed yesterday that Svetlana Aliluyeva, the only daughter of Joseph Stalin, was trying to leave the Soviet Union after returning here from the West in a blaze of publicity 15 months ago.

Mr Viktor Louis, a Soviet journalist often used as an indirect source for official information, told Western reporters that Aliluyeva was now in Moscow seeking permission to leave the country with her US-born daughter Olga, aged 14.

On Sunday, a senior US official told The Times that both mother and daughter had held talks with the American

embassy, which regards them both as American citizens.

Mr Louis, who has often acted as a conduit for information about Soviet citizens potentially embarrassing to the authorities, was once accused by Aliluyeva, aged 59, of circulating a doctored copy of her memoirs in the West. He said yesterday it was unlikely the Soviet authorities would grant her exit papers although it would probably give them to Olga.

Aliluyeva was given back her Soviet citizenship by special decree in 1984 after earlier burning her Soviet passport.

The Soviet journalist said

he understood Aliluyeva was trying to send her daughter to an English school. He said he did not know whether she herself wanted to leave the USSR permanently or merely accompany Olga to England.

Olga, the daughter of her third marriage to American architect Mr William Peters, previously attended a Quaker school at Saffron Walden in England.

Nothing has been heard from Aliluyeva since the controversial press conference she gave for selected newsmen in Moscow after spending 17 years in the West.

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26-33	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967
34-41	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967
42-49	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967
50-57	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967
58-65	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967
66-73	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967
74-75	12,970	2,262	2,262	17,494	2,967

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18-25	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
26-33	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
34-41	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
42-49	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
50-57	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
58-65	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
66-73	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414
74-75	32,425	5,655	5,655	43,735	7,414

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(d) Has a proposal on your life been declined, postponed, or accepted on special terms by any life insurance company? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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Foreign Secretary promises change in law to allow extradition

Howe's concessions on Sikh extremists ease strains with India

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in his first meeting with his Indian opposite number yesterday, announced a number of significant concessions to the Indian view that London is not doing enough to curb Sikh extremists in Britain.

Sir Geoffrey told Mr Balram Bhagat, the Minister for External Affairs, that Britain was now prepared to agree to two main steps, which will require amendment of British legislation, making it easier to extradite terrorists to India.

The Foreign Secretary also told the Indian minister that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, had rejected an application by Mr Jaswant Singh Thakkar for asylum.

Mr Thakkar is the self-described defence minister of the would-be independent Sikh state of Khalistan, and caused an outcry in India when he was granted a council house by Ealing Borough Council recently.

In the early morning Sir Geoffrey visited the River Yamuna to lay a wreath on the cremation sites of Mrs Indira Gandhi and Mahatma Gandhi (the one ironically a victim of Sikh extremism, the other of Hindu extremism).

Later he was able to tell Mr Bhagat that Britain would agree to "disapply" the political offence exception in the 1967 Fugitive Offenders Act, which governs extradition between Britain and Commonwealth countries, in respect of conspiracy in India to commit a violent crime there.

Speaking of terrorist violence, the Foreign Secretary

urged a co-operative effort, telling Mr Bhagat: "Let us get on top of this together, before this gets on top of us."

Sir Geoffrey also said Britain was ready to adopt a "no-list" method of judging what offences were extraditable. Instead of a list of offences, all those which carried a sentence of 12 months or more in

India would be included in the list. The Act, which gives effect to the European Convention on Terrorism, agrees that the political defence shall not apply to terrorism. At present it applies only to European countries, though the US is expected to join shortly. India could be included by a simple Order in Council.

India responded by suggesting a bilateral extradition treaty to replace the Fugitive Offenders Act, but Britain appeared reluctant to make any changes which require primary legislation.

With that reluctance overcome, Indian officials will no doubt be pressing for more changes. Officials of the two countries are to get together today to analyse the present concessions and to see what further may be done.

The Indian Government response in general has so far fallen short of enthusiastic.

While the foreign ministry spokesman said that Mr Bhagat "expressed his appreciation" for the refusal of Mr Thakkar's asylum, he gave no reaction to the proposed enhancement of the extradition rules, noting merely that the British proposals would be referred to experts to study.

The spokesman characterized the talks as "candid". A British official described them as "businesslike, substantive and constructive".

that it was not possible to change the extradition arrangements between Britain and India except by adding India's name to those countries covered by the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

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Sir Geoffrey Howe donning special socks while visiting the site on the banks of the holy river Yamuna where Indira Gandhi was cremated after her murder by Sikh bodyguards.

Police attacked at Korean rally against Chun rule

From David Watts, Seoul

Police arrested 69 people in the southern city of Kwangju yesterday when opposition supporters defied orders to disperse after a big weekend rally.

The Government warned the opposition that it would not permit such unruly behaviour at a rally again — a public monument was set on fire and police were stoned. The leader of the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), Mr Lee Min Woo, apologized for the violent incidents and said the party would try to bring its supporters under control at future rallies. Both Mr Lee and Mr Kim Young Sam of the NKDP had to call on the crowd for calm.

The other leading opposition figure, Mr Kim Dae Jung, is not permitted to take part in political activities under the conditions of his return to South Korea and was prevented from taking a plane south.

That there was not more violence was probably due to the restraint President Chun now shows whenever the opposition holds a rally. The citizens of Kwangju are the most strongly opposed to the President in the country. It was President Chun who ordered troops into Kwangju to quell a student uprising in 1980. The protest was put down with great force and the President has been tainted with that incident in the eyes

of many ever since he assumed power.

Officially the Government says 191 died, but there is widespread disbelief of that figure not least because the Government has steadfastly refused any investigation into the events at Kwangju.

The rally at the weekend was to launch a petition campaign in the south-west of the country. Signatures are being gathered to demand direct presidential elections. This is to give the country a chance to elect a civilian president of its choice rather than the electoral college once again selecting a retired military officer on voters' behalf.

The turn-out at the rally seems to have been the biggest of the present series with estimates ranging up to 100,000 people in spite of Government attempts to divert them with pop singers and other attractions.

President Chun's present soft line with the opposition dates from late February when he entertained opposition leaders at a conciliatory lunch and probably has something to do with the fact that he begins a European tour next Monday in London.

The smell of tear gas might taint the atmosphere for the first visit to Britain by a Korean head of state who will be doing his best to portray a genial image as the host of the next Olympic Games.

Prince's house shelled

Tokyo (Reuters) — Two rockets were fired yesterday at the residence of Japan's Crown Prince Akihito and a state guest house near by but both failed to explode.

Police said one rocket landed by a pond in the grounds of the prince's residence and the other near the guest house where foreign dignitaries from six industrialized Western nations will stay during the May economic summit in Tokyo.

A policeman was injured while investigating a burning car in which a launcher cap-

ble of firing four rockets was found.

Authorities said they would step up security for the summit, beginning on May 4, and for a ceremony a week earlier marking the sixtieth anniversary of Emperor Hirohito's reign.

Home-made rockets were launched last week against the US Embassy and the emperor's palace for which the radical left-wing Seikai (Battle Flag) group claimed responsibility. The police headquarters in Osaka also came under rocket fire.

China set for East bloc links

Peking (AFP) — China seeks to restore relations with all East European communist parties but will not consider party links with Moscow as long as three obstacles remain, a party spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Wu Xingtang, spokesman for the Chinese Communist Party International Liaison Committee, said that so far as Eastern Europe was concerned, China was ready to restore relations with all parties but to do so with the Soviet Union was impossible.

Peking holds that three obstacles standing in the way of normalization of relations with the Soviet Union are Soviet support for the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia, Soviet troops in Afghanistan and the Soviet military build-up on China's northern frontier.

China has often indicated that it is willing to restore ties with Eastern European parties, but Monday's statement was the first official confirmation that it was pursuing a two-tier strategy in relations with the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies, analysts said.

Mr Wu said restoration of party ties with Moscow was out of the question now and denied there had been discussion of resuming ties at recent meetings between Chinese and Soviet officials.

"We're happy to notice development of relations with the East European countries in many aspects, political, economic and cultural," he said.

Eastern European diplomats said that countries in Eastern Europe would not resume party ties with Peking until Moscow had done so.

Threat to another Speaker

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

Yesterday's dethronement of the Sindh Assembly Speaker, only 15 months after his election, by a large majority of the Pakistan Muslim League parliamentary party, may pose a similar threat to the Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Fakhr Imam.

His non-aligned and independent-minded conduct in the house is known to have irked both President Zia ul-Haq and the country's federal government.

Mr Abdullah Hussain Haroon, western-educated and the youngest ever Speaker of Sindh provincial assembly, was ousted yesterday from office by an 88-2 vote.

His ouster, though by no means a surprise, aroused widespread condemnation from independent members of national and provincial assemblies. They regarded it as pressure on all members trying to stay out of the newly-formed ruling party and to retain the status on which they were returned in the non-party elections over a year ago.

Ten members of the Sindh Assembly in Karachi, including the ousted speaker, Mr Haroon, boycotted the proceedings, holding them to be contrary to assembly rules. Outside, all public demonstrations were banned.

Observers noted that in the National Assembly, Mr Fakhr Imam has repeatedly asserted that having been elected to a partyless house he would stay non-partisan and would not join the ruling party.

Begum Zia's alliance boycotting May vote

From Ahmed Fazi, Dhaka

A united opposition move to restore democracy in Bangladesh after four years of martial law received a severe jolt yesterday when a seven-party alliance led by Begum Khaleda Zia decided to boycott the May election called by President Ershad.

Begum Zia, who also leads the former ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party, said the alliance could not take part in elections unless General Ershad quashed martial law convictions passed on former ministers, released political prisoners and allowed press freedom.

"There is no atmosphere for a free vote in the country," Begum Zia told reporters after a 10-day meeting of the alliance had decided in favour of a boycott.

Sheikh Wazed's 15-party alliance has split on the poll issue with five parties in the group opposing the election. She said, however, that she was prepared to fight the pro-Ershad Jatiya Party alone.

Student supporters of the two alliances, which had jointly campaigned for democracy since 1983, clashed violently on Sunday at Dhaka University: one student was killed and 30 were injured. Sheikh Wazed blamed Begum Zia's supporters and former alliance colleagues for unleashing terrorism against her party.

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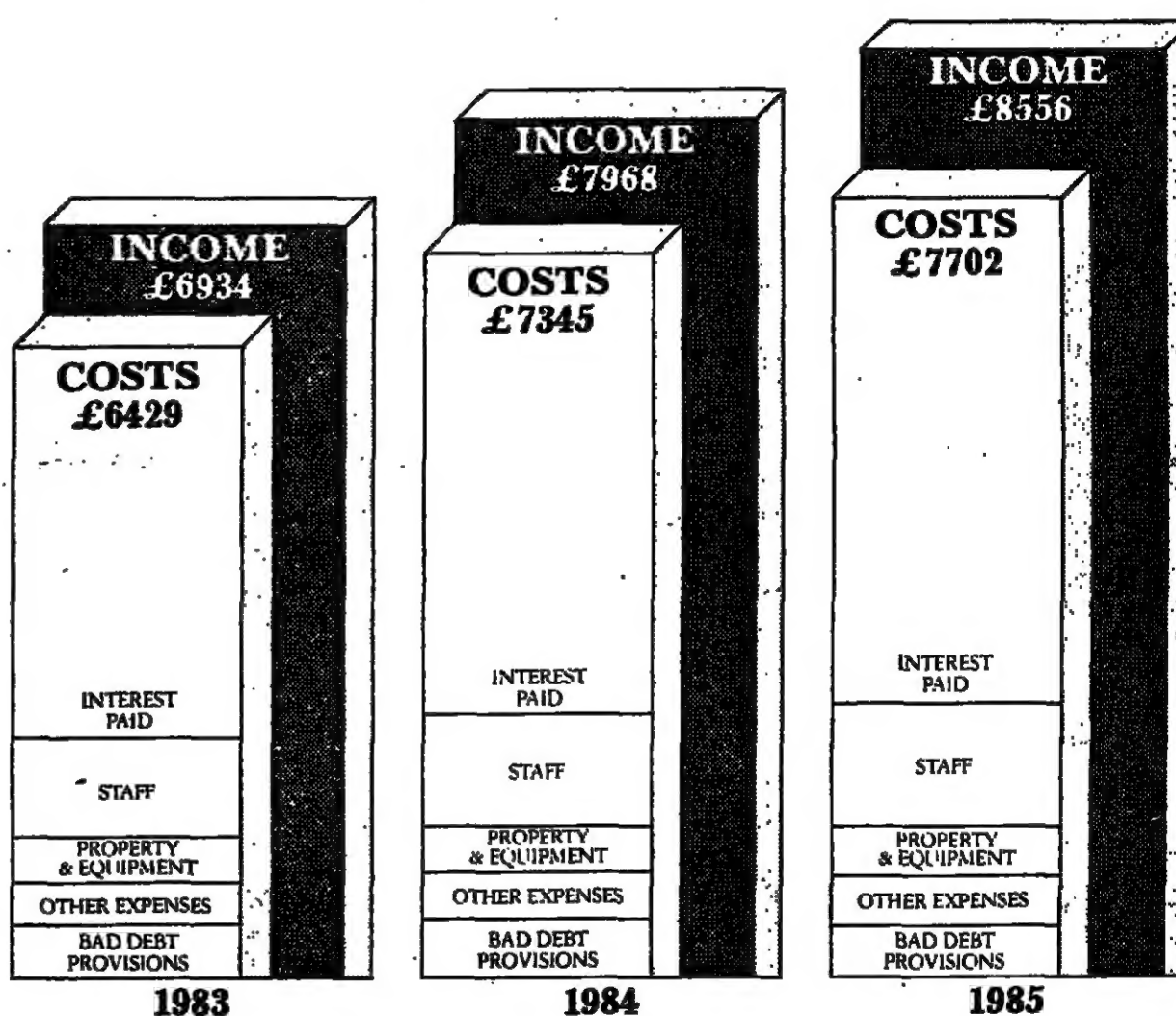
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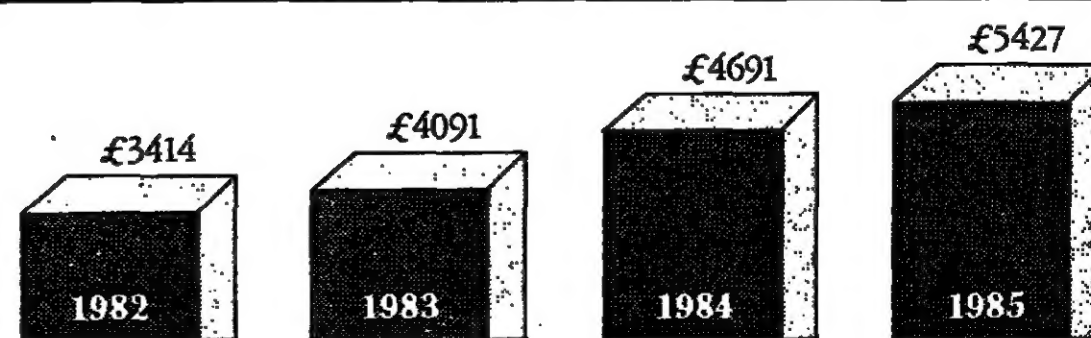
GROUP PROFIT BEFORE AND AFTER TAX (£M)

	1983	1984	1985
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	505	623	854
TAXATION	211	328	405
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	294	295	449

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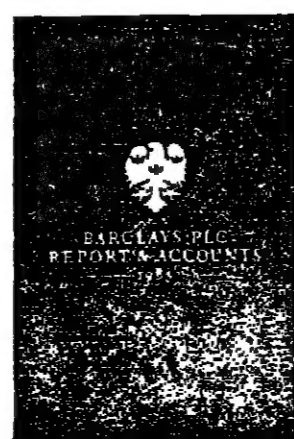
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Where trouble waits on the corner

In violent areas, people invent their own ways to stay out of danger. In the second part of his series, Alan Franks visits the scene of one of Britain's summer riots to find out how the beleaguered residents are coping with the ever-present threat

If you believe every word of the taxi driver's story, you might think you were entering a war zone and not the restfully named area of Chapeltown, three miles to the north of Leeds city centre.

"You see that button down there. If I press that, it puts out a 'red call'. That means that all the other cars in the firm — and there's more than 250 of them — will come straight away to where I am no matter what they're doing or where they are or whether they've got a fare in. Don't matter. They'll be there, straight away."

"Personally, I've stopped picking up in Francis Street. I was there a little while back and there was this car parked right across the road, barricading it so I couldn't get in. Far as I'm concerned, it's a no-go area these days, like it is for many of the drivers in the firm. It don't mean you can't go in if you want to. But it's up to you. You've got the option of saying no."

"Of my mates, I know two personally who got knifed by passengers before they made off with the takings. Then there's others who just do a runner, out of the car and off, without paying the fare. It's right terrible in this place. There's rapings and muggings and stabbings. You name it, they've got it."

By this time he is warning to his theme and there is no stopping him. He is rattling on with the speed of a meter after midnight. "I gather that on some occasions the cops have actually used a taxi as a decoy vehicle so they could get the guys."

To demonstrate his even-handedness he talks about the white taxis who wreck the pubs down in the centre of town. In this respect at least he is not exaggerating: you only have to see the police presence on Saturday nights around City Square when the beer-swilling soccer fans stream from the station.

Then, of course, there are the Asians, who, he says, are doing their best to muscle their way into the taxi business and take over the whole of the local trade. And finally — inevitably — the West Indians.

"If you ask me, up here in Chapeltown, the blacks just about run the place. They're above the law. Over in Spencer Place they've got these things they call the Blues

Clubs, where you can pick up just about any drug you want. Everyone around here knows about them. And if they haven't got what you want, they'll direct you to somewhere else."

"I've brought folks here from the so-called better areas — one couple from a real posh suburb — and she gets out and says 'I'll be back in a minute', and the guy stays in. And when she comes out again he looks at what she's bought and says 'That'll do you' and off we go until she says 'Hang on, we haven't got the papers', so I find them a cigarette shop and off we go back to Beeston."

The tight square mile at the centre of Chapeltown and the adjoining area of Harehills is quite simply the most crowded place in the British Isles. In 1981 it exploded in two nights of rioting in the wake of Brixton and Toxteth. Today, five years on, a senior police officer with 12 years experience in the district thinks long and hard before answering the question: "What would be your advice to people thinking about going out alone after dark?" His pause is as long as his answer is short. "Don't."

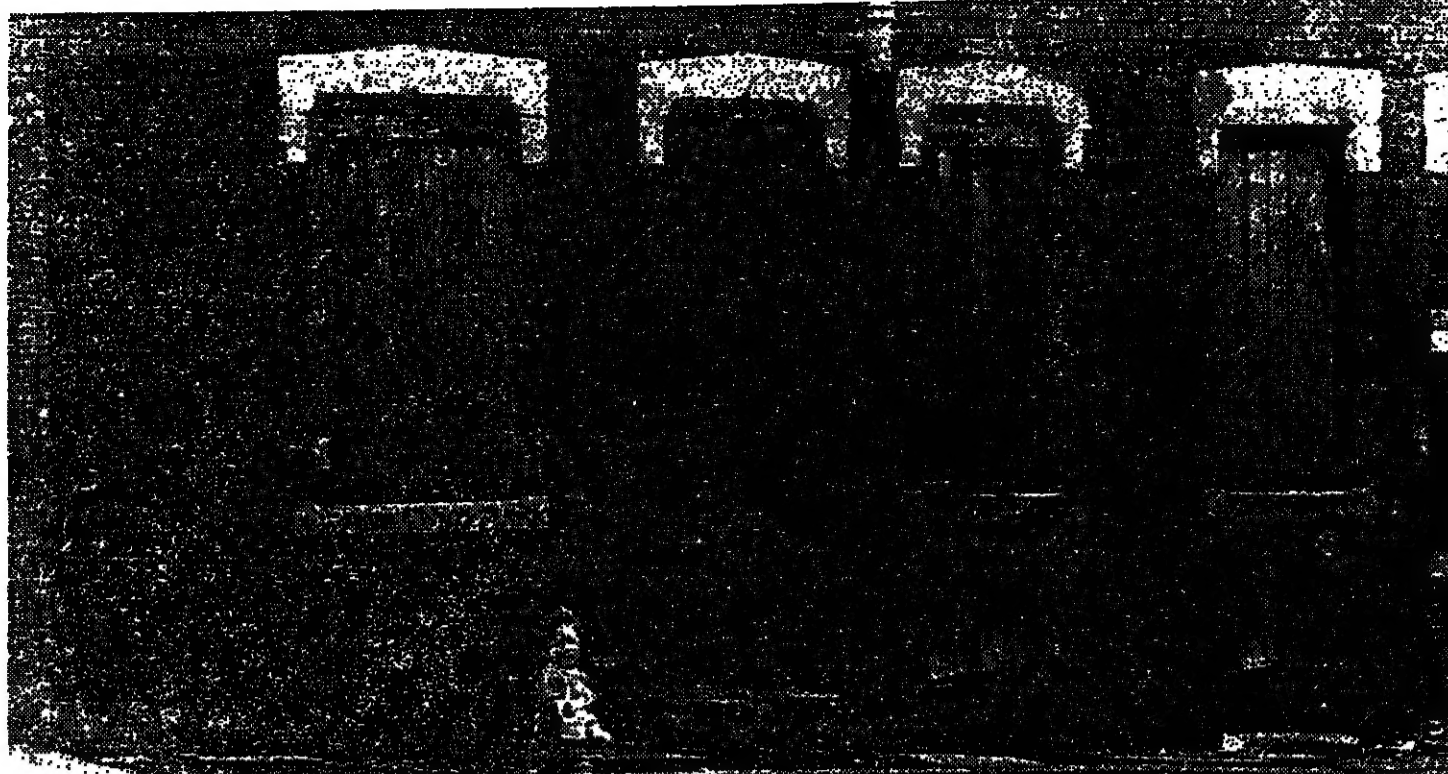
In the cramped grid of Victorian terraces, and even in the *déclassé* grandeur of streets like Spencer Place, you cannot walk more than

'We've had many more young girls on the streets'

a few yards without passing a house with its windows boarded up. Most are squats, council properties awaiting renovation. But even the police concede that the occupants in others, weary of smashed windows, may have opted for something less breakable than glass: a suggestion bitterly refuted by the local law centre.

In either case, a knock at the front door after dark brings no answer. In one, the face of an elderly Asian woman appears at the single-glazed window at the top of the building; she draws the curtain aside by an inch, and then recedes again.

Even on a weekday afternoon it is not uncommon to see a single



The boarded windows of Chapeltown: small children may be street smart but the police warn the elderly not to go out at night

young prostitute moving slowly up and back along a patch of pavement. Would-be clients may well have been put off by stories of men being beaten up and robbed when they get back to the flat. Trevor Jones, deputy subdivision officer of Chapeltown, admits: "Since the law has altered and prostitutes know they won't be sent straight to jail, we've had many more young girls on the streets, and yes, there have been a few cases of the client being rolled."

Chapeltown is not only remarkable for its density but also for its great variety of ethnic origins. Apart from British, West Indians, Asians and Jews, there are now substantial communities of Latvians, Ukrainians, Serbians, Greeks and Yugoslavs.

The sight of a synagogue turned into a club for young West Indians tells the story of this part of Leeds. Forty or 50 years ago it was the successful Jewish businessmen and tradesfolk who occupied the classic homes in this quarter. Gradually they moved northwards towards the well-to-do suburbs in Moortown and Shadwell, with their golf courses and set-back homes, or even to the opulence of Harrogate, 13 miles to the north.

Back in Chapeltown, the houses that were once family homes display their shifting function by

the long vertical string of bell-pushes beside the front door. Now the successful Asians have started to scale their way up the map like the Jews before them. Newer influxes arrive in their wake.

Despite the taxi driver's analysis, the police contend that because of its cosmopolitan nature and the history of its demography, Chapeltown has no clear sense of a black area, a European area, an Asian area, or a Leeds-born-and-bred area. It is all part of their intense desire to play down the element of overt racism in violent crime.

What appears to have happened is that the neighbourhood suffers from the fear of violence almost as much as from violence itself. With the poor and the elderly constituting the bulk of the indigenous population, the climate seems grimly predisposed for muggings and the like.

But the figures are not helpful. In 1984 the police recorded 64 robberies in the sub-division containing Chapeltown, for which there was a 28 per cent clean-up rate. In 1985, there were 74 robberies, again with 28 per cent solved. Of assaults and woundings, there were 240 in 1984 with 77 per cent solved, and the following year 233 with 74 per cent solved.

Without a detailed area-by-area breakdown in a sub-division that

stretches for several miles almost into open country, it is impossible to do anything more than surmise on the number of offences in the second category committed in Chapeltown itself.

If the elderly, particularly women, are wary of going out alone, there is one highly significant reason for this, often obscured by the preoccupation with racism. The victims of Peter Sutcliffe, the

'It was the whites who stirred the whole thing up'

Yorkshire Ripper, came from nearby and when he was stalking the area, the community was indeed gripped by a sense of terror.

As for the 1981 riots, the taxi driver has his (predictable) views, but one prominent member of the 2,500-strong Polish community, most of whom settled here after being demobilised at the end of the Second World War, dissents passionately. "No, no," he declares in a still broad accent. "Those riots, those two days of violence... don't blame the West Indians for that. Yes, many of them were arrested, but there were whites too. Remember that. Remember also that the whole thing was

started by the whites — I mean the whites in London, the communists who came here and stirred the whole thing up. Oh yes. They used to come and have meetings here at Jubilee Hall."

"Another thing. The police, since the rioting, things have changed. They're not going around making these big arrests of many people. They've been sieving through them one by one and picking up the real trouble-makers. And the blacks, they found out that all the violence doesn't pay and that's why we haven't had more riots in Chapeltown this time around. No, I tell you, the blacks know they have been used."

The police station itself is just a few hundred yards up Chapeltown Road, a cosy old Victorian-style building, more at home in the era of the blue light than the red. There is a total staff of 200 in the sub-division, of whom 13 are local beat officers. Inspector Tony Goode is charged with maintaining police liaison with the community.

"There's no way we can pretend that unemployment and the economic climate, not just here but in the nation as a whole, don't aggravate tension," he says. "And in Chapeltown itself the rate of unemployment is running at 29 per cent. Now, in my experience, this tends to create some kind of nocturnal pattern. The kids get up

late because they've got nowhere to go. They walk about in the afternoon, then maybe it's the clubs or the pubs, like the Hayfield, down the road in the evening, and then they hang around into the small hours. Today the Hayfield stands like a great white English dinosaur. Outside an idyllic rural pub sign swings on its bracket and inside there is the steady pulse of reggae. "Since Scarman", says Inspector Goode. "I think we've all had to examine ourselves. We're now more conscious of having to police with the consent of the community. We have what we call a Community Forum, which meets every nine weeks. Its purpose is to allow individuals, community associations, voluntary and statutory agencies to give us some sort of feedback. And in a way this is unique because in other forces

'The kids get up late because they've got nowhere to go'

each forum is based on sub-divisional boundaries, whereas in Chapeltown we have a special one just for the immediate community."

But whatever the improvements may have been, Inspector Goode repeats his advice that the elderly would be well advised to keep off the streets at night. As the pubs close and the drinkers disgorge, you can see his point. It's not that there's a mugger waiting around every corner. Mugging is an opportunistic business, that's the thing to remember."

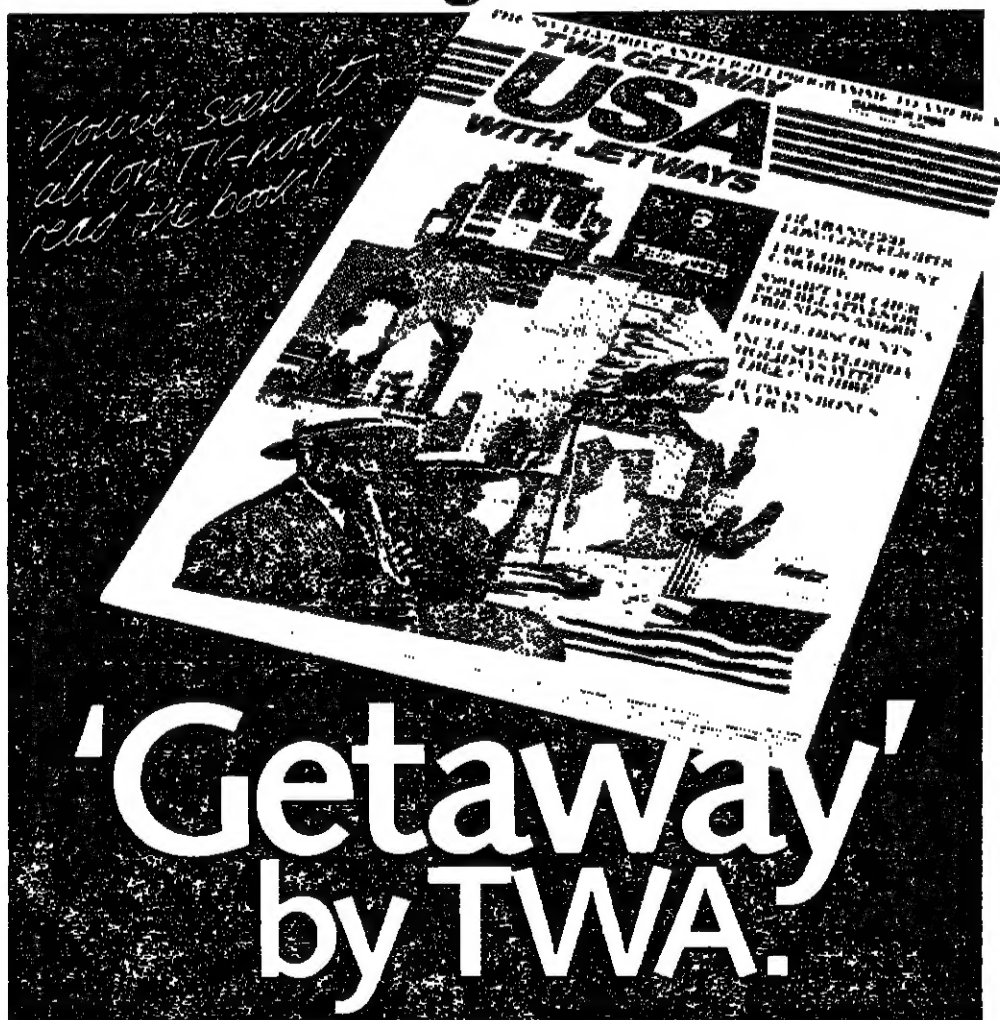
Over at the Harehills and Chapeltown Law Centre in Roundhay Road, you can almost hear the weariness and frustration in the voice of legal adviser Sonia Ward when she considers the received public notion of race as the determinant of community violence.

"You see, what they never tell you is that black youths don't want to go down to the railway station on a Saturday night. No, do they mention that when there was rioting in Harrogate — there were white people charged. Look, you can feel at risk in any area. People in all sorts of communities tend not to be very friendly when they see a new face. You say that you didn't feel too comfortable in the Hayfield. Look, the other day I went for a drink out in a country pub, a pretty quiet sort of place, and certainly didn't feel welcome. So I didn't stay long."

TOMORROW

Part Three: the new vigilantes

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Leading the way to the USA



Cognac toasts the thriller

The famous French brandy-producing town has discovered a unique way of promoting its produce — a festival of detective films

As Gérard Sturm explained: "It was time to put Cognac on the map". On the map, it lies 75 miles north of Bordeaux, a small provincial town whose economy depends on its single product — Cognac. What was troubling Sturm and the town's 243 cognac houses was cheap competition from outside France and a change in French drinking habits, with whisky and white spirits such as vodka outstripping their own cherished product.

Although they were — and still are — selling more cognac than ever, it was clearly not a time for complacency. Their solution was drastic: thrillers. Sturm, an ex-fighter pilot, is the public voice of the cognac producers and five years ago he decided that Cognac should have its own annual film festival: it would be home of films *policiers*, thrillers, or, in the new argot, *les polars*.

At the last count there were more than 650 film festivals worldwide every year. But only in Cognac can film buffs see dozens of thrillers, and nothing but thrillers. And unlike the daunting festivals elsewhere (particularly the bedlam of Cannes), all the *films policiers* are shown in Cognac's single small three-screen cinema from morning to midnight. It's rather like holding a film festival in the Chipping Norton ABC.

Nevertheless, hundreds of French critics, directors, writers and stars are heading to Cognac for the fifth consecutive year to see *polars* from all over the world. There will be a sprinkling of international stars like Angie Dickinson, Monica Vitti and Mastroianni, and Terence Young, the director of James Bond, is on the jury of this thriller festival. But the main attraction this year is a tribute to Robert Mitchum, whose hood-eyed, laconic style on screen has an intense following among French critics. Mitchum's

MUST BE GOOD! IT'S GOT A FOUR BOTTLE RATING.



presence in Cognac follows the success of Ernest Borgnine there last year, and similar tributes have been paid in previous festivals to American B-film heroes like Jack Palance and the late Ray Milland.

Sturm speaks typically of *films policiers*. "I remembered the pre-war French movies and how both the *films* and the villains used to drink cognac in those films. We wanted to bring together the excitement of the thrillers with the style of the drink in this unique festival."

During the festival, as a relief from all the blood-letting and murder on the screen, the larger cognac houses, like Hennessy, Martell and Camus, host lavish banquets.

Lionel Chouchain, who already organizes the Deauville festival of American films, oversees this bizarre twinning of cinema and drink and judiciously mixes new thrillers from around the world (last year's Grand Prix winner was an Argentine film) with rarities from French directors.

The cult of the *polars* is strong in France. Hundreds have been released on video; one Paris library is exclusively devoted to the genre and there is now a new generation of young thriller-writers and directors. One enthusiast defined the new thrillers as "renovators of the traditional French detective stories, steeped in modernity, who dip their pens in the city sewers, breathe the air of the present day and hum the tunes of rock 'n' roll". Another described

himself as a child of Raymond Chandler and Michael Weiner, whose aspiration was to "cross Machine-Gun Kelly with Dostoevsky". It's a long way from Miss Marple.

French cineastes have for years elevated American B-movies to cultural heights that have bewildered Hollywood. The case of Jerry Lewis is notorious. But one young director in Cognac assured me that *Carry On* films are shown undubbed in Paris art cinemas, and that, "For us, Benny Hill is God".

Dr Johnson's celebrated remark that "the who aspirin" could have been an accurate slogan for the Cognac Film Festival.

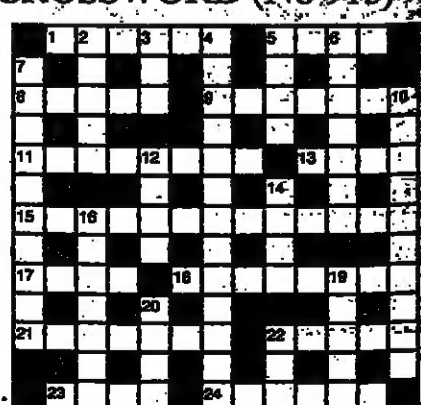
Richard Gilbert

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 913)

ACROSS
1 Without integrity (6)
5 Illegal drug (4)
8 Strong (5)
9 Immoderate (7)
11 Dusk (8)
13 Aid (4)
15 Unparalleled (13)
17 Distraught (4)
18 Congregate (8)
21 Churchyard (3,4)
22 Poisonous (5)
23 Stare at (4)
24 Character (6)

DOWN
2 Civilian dress (5)
3 Gleam (3)
4 Rhine principal (13)
5 Information (4)
6 Specious excuse (7)
7 Pentecost (4,6)

SOLUTION TO No 912
ACROSS: 11 Fall 13 Masterpiece 17 Lane 18 Scientist 21 Wastrel 22 Unfit 23 Panoply 24 Tasks
DOWN: 1 Demis 2 Pucks 3 Travesty 4 Categorically 5 Blown up 16 Gratus 19 Tiffs 20 Ramp



10 Suitability (10) 16 Peruke (7)
12 Wild goat (4) 19 Puncher (5)
14 Nothing more than (4) 20 Facultal (4)
22 Small band (3)

We regret that clue 41 down in Saturday's jumbo concise was wrong

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Game, twin-set and match

A stiff breeze is blowing across the knitwear counters. It comes from the sea and it brings a fresh look to traditional sweaters — for both sexes. Togetherness now means a twin-set, made and meant to match, or mixed in with a wardrobe of casual separates. Those leisure clothes are getting more formal, as the tailored jacket takes its revenge on the blouson and knits follow suit.

The cardigan is the key to men's dressing for the spring holiday. While the women have taken over Professor Higgins's sloppy shapes, the male cardigan has smartened up. It comes waist-length, shawl-collared or double-breasted, and is meant to be worn as a jacket over a buttoned shirt. The sailor's mess uniform or the yachting blazer are the inspiration for the shapes of the knits, which sport brass buttons, regimental stripes, badges and crests.

On this wave of formality come smart accessories: two-tone loafer shoes, polo-collared tops rather than T-shirts, and the revival of the ultimate clubhouse accessory, the cravat.

Trousers are also getting crisper. Although the Levi's 501 campaign is fighting a brave rearguard action for denim, the favourite springweight fabrics are drill, whipcord and cotton poplin, rather than blue jeans. Pleat-front trousers are now universally in fashion in all the younger chains, even if flat-front, stay-pressed pants still rule the high street stores.

Tweaking socks in odd-ball colours like petrol blue and apricot, and an imaginative selection of shirts and ties, have transformed men's shops, with Next the brand-leader for smartening up casual style.

Sportswear was the key that opened men's fashion to colour. The cheery track suits and sweat shirts enhanced, rather than threatened, a macho image.

Now that classic clothes are painted with the same bold brush, the patterned shirts and bright knitwear are accepted as exciting, but not eccentric. Anything now goes for colour, with classics like navy and grey, and the full range of sugared almond pastels, also on offer for the new knits.

Meanwhile, women who were quick to snatch those sweaters and shirts from the male wardrobe are re-drawing the lines between the sexes. Softness is our strength in this game of twin-set and match.

The newest way with the elongated cardigans and cable knits is to put them with the flimsiest of skirts.

Transparent chiffon, light as a breeze, is the skirt-style for summer. The ultra-long tunic tops and cardies protect modesty and pin the soft fabrics firmly against the body to the thighs. Below that, the chiffon, voile or pleats billow out like a ship in sail.

The long soft skirts — all the hemlines are near ankle-length — are in deliberate contrast to the tubes of knit or fabric that have made the slim-line silhouette of the past season. Those straight skirts are still with us, but for more



sporty or relaxed occasions a mid-calf skirt with movement provides a high fashion alternative.

The long skirts with pleats, always from the waist rather than the hip, have a Last of Empire feel, as though the wearer were embarking on a leisurely cruise. Accessories also add to the period mood: wedge-heeled, peep-toe sandals, trailing beads and scarves, soft straw hats tied on with chiffon or net.

The knits themselves tend to be longer and softer than the male equivalent: high-necked, V-neck cardigans that fasten from the waist; fondant pale cable sweaters, redolent of the playing fields of an old English summer.

Ralph Lauren captures precisely this nostalgia for the past, yet expresses it in American prep school clothes for today. It has a lot to do with the fabrics, which are pure cottons and linens, rather than the chain store acrylics that have the shape, but not the feel, of British classics.

Proportion is the name of the game both sexes play with fashion. Just as the man's

shorter, waist-length knitted jacket is married to baggy trousers, so women too are choosing softer, pyjama pants, or even those that flare Sixties-style at the ankle.

There are many fashion frames of reference in current style. The Sixties have also brought back the polo neck, the cut-away sleeve and the short skirt, which is worn under the very long cardigan.

From the 1950s come the tight pants that stop short of the ankle, and the Grace Kelly headscarf, while men are reviving the three-buttoned jacket and the perennially popular blazer.

Knitwear remains the most contemporary of fashions, because it is comfortable, versatile and affordable. The spring knits range from pure cotton band-knits selling at over a hundred pounds, down to the look of the moment at cheap and cheerful prices.

The most inexpensive way to shop is to buy a sweater that is meant for two. Couples are buying knits that both partners then wear. Swapping around cardigans and sweaters is fun, not just for the young, and it gives a whole new meaning to the classic twin-set.



Above left: preppy style — HER creamy cotton cable-knit sweater, £25, over a pastel pale blue cotton polo shirt, £25. Cart-length pleated linen skirt, £55, all by Ralph Lauren. Necklaces: Liberty, Regent Street, W1. HIS pearl grey shawl-collared cotton cardigan with navy trim, £134. Cotton polo shirt, £30, tartan cravat and navy trousers, £42. All from Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, London, W1. Glasses: £30 from Mulberry Company, 11-12 Gess Court, W1.

Above: last of Empire — HER sleeveless knitted cotton tunic, £148 over a silky skirt with transparent chiffon, £35. Soft straw hat, £22.50. Lace scarf, £9.50, all from Whistles, St Christopher's Place, London W1, and branches. HIS cotton knit 'Higgins' cardigan, £55. Abstract print cotton shirt £25. Cotton drill trousers, £49, tortoiseshell frame glasses, from a selection at Paul Smith, 43-44 Floral Street, WC2, Avery Row, W1 and Nottingham.

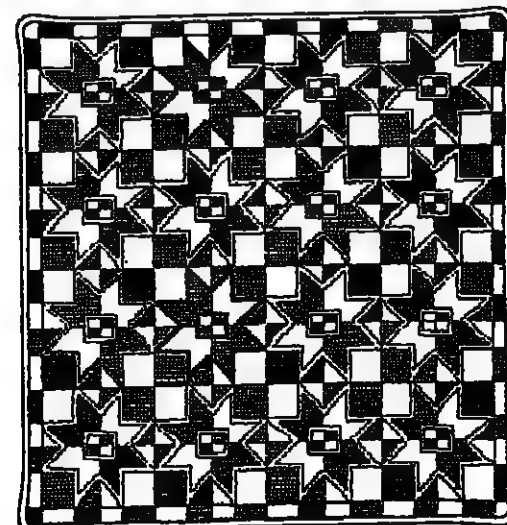
Left: Matisse stripes — HER elongated navy and white acrylic cardigan, double-breasted, £35.99. Circular navy chiffon double layer skirt, £32.99, both from Principles branches nationwide and in Debenhams, Oxford Street W.1. Soft straw hat £22.50, white patent wedge shoes, £55, both from Whistles, St Christopher's Place and branches. HIS double-breasted navy cardigan 50% wool £39.99, red cotton polo shirt, £10.99. Blue madras-checked pleat front trousers, polyester cotton, £22.99, all from branches of Principles. White lace up shoes, £29.99 from Next for Men, South Molton Street and branches.

Make-up: Ruth Sheldon.
Hair: Peter Forrester for Daniel Galvin

Photographs by Nick Briggs

A NEW TAPESTRY BY KAFFE FASSETT

Star patterns have often featured in Kaffe Fassett's knitting and fabric designs and in his new tapestry he paints them in the weathered pastels, flaking greys and dusty pinks found in Italian frescos and Mediterranean tiles. He is an undisputed master of subtle colouring and in this new tapestry his colours look as if faded by the sun.



'Fresco Star' measures 15" x 15" and is worked in simple half-cross stitch. It is printed in the full eleven colours: Pale lemon, silver grey, marble rust, a powder and a sky blue, mustard, lime, storm blue, faded plum, pale peach and ivory. Printed on 10 holes to the inch doubleweave canvas the kit comes complete with all the required yarns from the Appleton tapestry range, needle and instructions. All for £17.95 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST — No stamp needed.

Ehrman, 21/22 Victoria Gate, London, W8 4AA. Partners: H&R Ehrman. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Money back if kit returned unused within 14 days.

To: EHRMAN, FREEPOST, LONDON, W8 4BR.

Please send me _____ tapestry kits at £17.95 each.

I enclose cheque/P.O. made out to Ehrman for £ _____ (Total)

Name _____

Address _____

TMS/96

THE NHS DEBATE
Ken Livingstone and Enoch Powell show their spots.DENIM RESHAPED, LEATHER REVAMPED
Fashion takes a tough lineLUCINDA GREEN'S HORSE COMPETITION
(very difficult — just try)

RUSSIAN EASTER IN LONDON AND PARIS

MEN'S BAZAAR
City Samurai: what they make, what they spendHEALTH AND BEAUTY SUPPLEMENT
Leslie Kenton on fantasy and the face

LENDY DUNCAN: NEW RSC STAR

Hamper & Queen

332 PAGES OF STYLE, NEWS, FASHION, SOCIETY, REVIEWS ★ £ 1.80

Pop music is not the only world where the "Young Ones" are pushing 40. In fashion, where being new is an article of faith, designers hang on to their youth until the tag defies the Trades Descriptions Act.

At least, they do in Britain. Here "young designer" is a generic term to describe high fashion clothes; the brave few admitting to maturity become "established designers". That suggests that as the creative juices run dry, they have left whacky fun clothes behind.

Other fashion capitals do it differently. In Milan, Paris, and New York, designers are designers — good or bad — and the internationally known names have vintage and no-vintage seasons.

No one has ever described Gianni Versace as a "young

YOUNG ONES

designer", although he is still only 38, the age at which many continental designers, after a long apprenticeship, flower in their own right. Romeo Gigli in Milan has just emerged as a fashion force at the age of 36, as has to Christian Lacroix at Jean Patou in Paris.

This has been a good international season for "old" designers. They are the ones who have not just the wisdom of experience but also its skills. The fashion world now belongs to those who can cut their cloth to our bodies.

Surgeons with the scissors include Azzedine Alaïa, whose spirally-cut dresses are shaped like an expertly-peeled orange; Yves Saint Laurent, who cuts a slip of black jersey on the bias and turns it into a

seductive evening dress; Giorgio Armani for the tender tailoring of his softly-waisted jackets; Jean Muir for her impeccably-cut peplums.

There are other designers who deserve recognition, but few are British. In our urge to encourage free, creative design, we have brought up a generation of fashion designers who cannot execute their ideas. Fashion has never been about designs scribbled on a sketch pad, but always about the painstaking ability to carry through the concept.

In the era of oversize and wild prints, of punk's torn shreds and androgynous images, designers could get by on style rather than substance.

Fit and cut have become fashion's new credos, and that sorts out the men from the "young" boys.



THE TIMES DIARY

Shooting in secret

Britain is to defy P.W. Botha and show film of South African police brutality, shot during the ban on filming township violence. The film, to be broadcast on Channel 4 on April 19, includes an interview with an undertaker who reveals that between May and September last year he buried 34 black children, all with multiple bullet wounds. *Witness to Apartheid* was made by freelance documentary maker Sharon Sopher who filmed throughout the state of emergency, shaming the major networks that observed Pretoria's ban. Having won the co-operation of African National Congress leaders and going from one safe house to another, she has returned with harrowing footage of the police in action. Only once did the security forces catch up with her: while filming parents of a 14-year-old killed in Soweto, Miss Sopher, co-producer Kevin Harris and the crew were detained by police for questioning. Rather than create an international incident, it seems the police let them go.

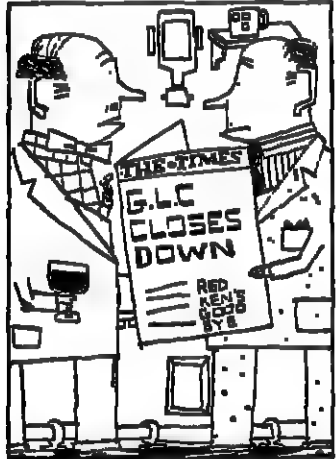
Shore thing

Looking for a celebrity TV columnist last week, the *News of the World* rang Cilla Black. "She's not here," said her housekeeper in a Scouse accent, "she's gone to the seaside." The reporter looked out at the bleak grey cliffs. "The seaside. Are you sure?" "Yes," the housekeeper said adamantly. "It certainly began with a sea." The reporter thought for a moment. "You don't mean the Seychelles, by any chance?" "That's it!" said the housekeeper triumphantly. "The Seashells."

Defensive

Magnus Magnusson, the narrator of tonight's BBC April Fool hoax - exposed here last Friday - tells me he has "no feelings" about the furore surrounding his programme, which has been slated as "tasteless" and "offensive" to Jews and the Royal Family. It shows a mock 1936 film of a secret meeting between Edward VIII and Hitler who, it claims, masterminded the Abdication. Since my disclosure, other papers have damned the BBC. One called for the sacking of BBC-2 controller Graeme McDonald, who at least had the wit to recall the script and censor the words "horrid Jews" - a quote from the spoof diaries of Unity Mitford. Magnusson told me: "Get on to the press office before you make up any more rubbish. OK, honey? Make up rubbish? Come, come, Magnus. Surely tonight that's your prerogative. 7.30 pm."

BARRY FANTONI



"Only a blue plaque? I thought they'd at least run to gold!"

Floored

It was just as well that Ken Livingstone thanked everyone on the South Bank, down to the lifeline, in his speech at the end of the GLC musical *Small Expectations*. Afterwards, GLC chairman Tony Banks was left tapping his fingers for an hour waiting for Livingstone and other council luminaries to join them at the cast reception. Finally they turned up explaining they had got stuck. In the lift.

Dry cleaned

Tory backbencher Michael Forsyth recently did his bit for the unemployed. He wrote to the *Sunday Express* suggesting that cleaners be employed to wash members' cars in the Commons' cavernous underground car park. He got a three-page reply consisting of "Civil Service mumbo-jumbo" about the logistical impossibility of such an undertaking - drains, security, cash, etc. Usefully included in the reply was a list of local garages with car washes for the MP's "assistance".

Voted out

Never accuse the labour movement of blindly rewarding success. After 15 months in which Graham Allen, as head of the Trade Union Co-ordinating Committee, has overwhelmingly persuaded voters in all 39 trade union ballots to keep their political funds, he now finds himself out of a job. The co-ordinating committee, wound up at the weekend, will, I understand, be relaunched tomorrow as a general campaign organization, under the title Trade Unions for Labour. Allen, however, will not be joining campaign chairman Bill Keys and two staff members in the new outfit. The co-ordinator's job has been landed instead by Transport and General Political Officer Jenny Pardington.

PHS

TV cake—or pie in the sky?

by Andrew Ehrenberg

There have been hundreds of submissions to the Peacock Committee, a plethora of suggestions. But not one has come within a billion pounds of a new way of paying for the BBC's television and radio services in anything like their present form.

Not even through advertising. John Dale rehearsed the more hopeful pro-advertising arguments on this page last month. In practice, the advertising cake will simply be too small. There will not be the extra £1 billion or so which the BBC would need. Dale notes how the economic forecasts have agreed on this, and company chairmen say so too. Even the bullish Institute of Practitioners in Advertising does not expect advertising to pay for more than half the BBC, and then only in 10 years. As Dale says, there would still have to be a "transitional" licence fee.

Most people feel that television advertising expenditure will grow at a greater rate than inflation. But not at the vast and quite unpredictable rate of 6 per cent a year that it has since 1975. Over the last 25 years it has averaged a 2.5 per cent increase a year in real terms. That is healthy growth, but it would contribute only £25 million more each year.

The much-vaunted technological revolution, with satellites beaming at us every which way, depends on advertising, too. Direct broadcasting will also be starved of advertising funds. The chances are it will not be able to

snaffle a larger share of viewing time than, say, Channel 4 - two or three of the average viewer's total of 25 to 30 hours a week. One reason satellites will not attract viewers is that there will not be enough money for new programmes. Rupert Murdoch's Sky Channel, for example, is budgeting £1,000 or £2,000 an hour for programming, compared with ITV's £50,000 and the BBC's £40,000.

For ITV and the BBC to be forced to scratch around for revenue from adverts would have them compete in the wrong market: advertisers and viewers' self-interests coincide only marginally. Broadcasters would inevitably cut the programmes which brought in less advertising revenue. Such programmes are, however, widely watched. Cutting them would not "give the public what it wants".

It is a fallacy to think that people just want to watch the programmes that attract the high ratings. The data show that viewers watch only two or three of the "top 10" programmes for an hour or two a week. The remainder of the time is devoted to individual choices. This holds true for viewers of all kinds - young and old, working and middle-class, tele-addicts and occasional viewers.

Commercial television has two markets: viewers who watch a wide range of programmes, and

advertisers who need large audiences. The problem is that the two are not satisfied by the same kind of programme. Advertisers would like programmes with specialist or select audiences, like readers of *Motoring News* or *The Times*. But television does not work like that. The audiences of *Dynasty* and *Panorama* are both way down-market from the readership of the *Daily Mail*.

Despite some holier-than-thou BBC posturing, television is a popular mass medium in all senses. Even so-called "low-rating" programmes are watched by a million or so viewers. And it is not always the same Hampstead set but a different million for each.

The question for Peacock is how this enormous demand for television can best be supplied - almost 1,500 hours per viewer in the year. Brutal realism would say that nowadays we get ITV and Channel 4 programmes as a free bargain (we certainly do not notice or hardly mind what we pay in dribs and drabs through our purchases of advertised goods and services). So do we need any further changes beyond ITV and Channel 4? Do we need the BBC?

The market response is clear: we do. The heaviest-viewing third of the audience watches three hours of non-ITV/Channel 4 a day. And the rest of us - almost two-thirds of the population who watch less

than 30 hours a week - spend only about 35 per cent of this time watching ITV. So the demand for other channels is large.

But since there is not the extra advertising money to have it come to us "free" like ITV, we will have to pay for it directly. Here: the submissions to Peacock appear unambiguous. There is no known way of paying for more television channels - over and above ITV and Channel 4 - that is cheaper than the licence fee. If the BBC did not exist, it would have to be invented, wars and all.

But can we afford it? The answer is yes. Britons on average spend £1,700 per household a year on leisure (£700 of it on drink in and out of the home). Hence less than £60 for television viewing, much the most popular leisure activity, cannot be quite the intolerable burden we are told it is.

The BBC has now had its official talk-in with the Peacock Committee. Things are likely to go quiet until July when the committee is expected to report. What then? Peacock might well be revolutionary, and recommend no change. I think Professor Peacock is a tough enough bird to avoid action for action's sake. And as a good economist he will, I expect, be able to recognize the most cost-effective compromise for the viewer when he sees it.

The author is director of the Centre for Marketing and Communication at the London Business School. He advised the BBC on its Peacock submission.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Now music falls to the mediocrats



The Royal Academy of Music: outraging competitors with its proposals for excellence

unlike school, be made unattract; for our schools, we shall eventually give every child passing through the system a handsome decoration called the Gold Star for Conspicuous Merit. But life will, sooner or later, shake the sieve, and a lot of people are going to be unpleasantly surprised by the size of the holes.

A few years ago, some splendid lunatic declared that what Britain needed was a symphony orchestra that could stand comparison with the world's best - the Vienna, the Berlin, the Chicago, the Boston, the Amsterdam. The plan was to raise a million pounds and collect and train the hundred best players in this country, to put the resulting orchestra on a sound financial footing with every member of it in a position to earn as much as a member of the Comedie Francaise, and then to challenge the world.

Nothing happened, because it became clear that the money could not be raised; but long before hope was abandoned I had moved my bed into the cellar and piled sandbags all round the walls, because I knew that the inevitable uproar, if the orchestra wheezed had got off the ground, would have been virtually indistinguishable from the outbreak of the Third World War in the form known as Mutual Assured Destruction.

This is the imposture of much wealth and peace. Which inward breaks, and shows no sign without. Why the man dies. But the world is real, and cannot,

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This is the imposture of much wealth and peace. Which inward breaks, and shows no sign without. Why the man dies. But the world is real, and cannot,

Wherever you look, the depressing story is the same, right down to those local authorities who wish to forbid the schools under their jurisdiction to organize "competitive" games (such as football), lest the children should come to believe that life is inevitably competitive. But life is inevitably competitive, and a great disservice is done to the young by telling them that it is not.

And at such a time, when excellence is needed more desperately than ever in our history, in order to offer something worth striving for, it is at its lowest point. It has been consciously rejected by those who long to turn Britain into a suburb of Karl Marx Stadt, and abandoned out of resignation, indifference, dullness of spirit or fear by those whose highest duty is to cultivate every form of it as a dyke and rampart against the encroaching barbarians.

The barbarians are at the gates: the Royal Academy of Music proposes to man the walls with a volunteer army of highly-trained warriors, and when those brave defenders of the faith look round for allies, what do they find?

The North is full of tangled things and texts and echoes; and dead is all the innocence of anger and surprise.

The walls are hung with velvet that is black and soft as sin. And little dwarfs creep out of it and little dwarfs creep in.

I have left the choicest morsel to the last. The rival musical colleges which have combined to oppose the plan of the RAM complain that if the Academy succeeds in its aim of attracting the best among staff and students alike, the other colleges would "become second-rate institutions". It might with justice be said that seats of learning which can take such an attitude are already second-rate institutions. There is, however, another comment to be made upon their claim. It is that if they fear the Academy's competition there is nothing to stop them announcing their own hunt for excellence, their own determination to engage and keep the best teachers, to invite and inspire the most eager students.

But the suspicion grows that it is not the Royal Academy of Music which they fear; it is the very idea of making part of such competition. Way, I'll wager, that they would like to get rid of all the awards for outstanding merit they have accumulated over the years - the Hilary Medal, the Highbottom Gold Medal for oboe-playing, the Kurt Schwaenke Cup for the best soprano voice, the Rosie O'Grady Bursary for figure-writing.

Up goes the price of shoddy! But if we all refuse to buy it, it will come down again. The Royal Academy of Music has defied the spirit of our time in striking a blow for excellence. Its rivals, who wish to see the plan fail, are hereby awarded the Levin Lennon for the most egregiously disharmonious wrong note of the year, and I invite them to suck it and see.

© Times Newspapers, 1986

Gadaffi's command performance

The process of media manipulation had begun at the airport. The wave of journalists who had descended on Tripoli were confined to an arrival lounge decorated for their benefit. To the permanent slogans from Colonel Gadaffi's Green Book had been added a new selection of lurid posters: "The unkept barbarian Reagan is a neophobic racist". The Central Intelligence Agency is the "leading satanic imperialist force". We produced our notebooks and, having nothing else to do for the next three hours, faithfully transcribed each one.

Later, the 150 international correspondents at the state-controlled Al Kabir Hotel witnessed a "spontaneous demonstration of Libyan people". They stood in the street, outside the chanting anti-American slogans, in English, which was convenient for the radio microphones soon thrust from the windows above.

The process reached its climax on Friday evening. Another demonstration, this time outside the Aziza Barracks. Colonel Gadaffi's official residence. The press corps was transported in a convoy of buses and cars through ranks of soldiers, sailors, boy scouts, wolf cubs, and girl guides. They were marching to hear Colonel Gadaffi deliver a "speech of two victories".

The first had been over the British, who had withdrawn from their military bases in the country 16 years ago that week; the other was over the Americans who had left the Gulf of Sirte hours before. The people of Tripoli paused only briefly in their daily tasks to regard the marching columns and the cavalcade of international media which sped by.

In the square before the barracks, the television men unloaded their cameras. There were

crews from the three American networks, from Soviet television, from the BBC and ITN. They moved in on the chanting groups of well-rehearsed children (their cries conducted by their scout-masters). Around each camera there was a cluster of girls and boys, a little bubble of fervour which insulated them from everything except the screaming faces.

It was my first visit to Libya, but already I knew reality was somewhere else. In Tripoli, there is little sense of gut enthusiasm for the Colonel's words. I travelled to Sirte, negotiating more than a dozen roadblocks, and talked to a score of wary Libyans. What rules in Libya is not populist enthusiasm but the repressive apparatus of a police state, and the insidious influence of Gadaffi's informers who are everywhere.

But such things do not make good television pictures. So the

camera crews concentrated on the demonstrations. The apathy of the ordinary people did not matter. Nor did the unphotogenic youths that most of the uniformed youths drafted in to cheer the speech stood around the fringes, looking bored, present in body only. The cameras were recording scenes of passionate fanaticism.

They culminated - still on film - with a group of Gadaffi's militiamen killing a bullock which had been ceremoniously daubed in English with the name of the American president. Crazed, they thrust their arms and guns into the animal's throat. They jumped on its thrashing body.

But all the while they turned to the cameras and as they jabbed their bloody hands towards the ever-open lenses there was no doubt that this was a performance, too.

Paul Valley

Digby Anderson

Waiting for a real purge

The SDP, five years old last week, was founded on two judgments: that a new party committed to social democracy was a practical proposition and the other, more fundamental, that the Labour Party was so irrevocably infected with Marxist activism that it could not be the means of achieving a fair and free society. It is this assessment of Labour still correct?

The current Labour leadership has tried, to create the impression that it is not and that the extremists are departed, converted or under control. The centrepiece of this campaign, indeed the only piece of action, was the bungled attempt to expel 12 alleged members of Militant. Apart from the unimpressive numbers involved, it is instructive to note that their alleged offence has nothing to do with their ideology. They are in trouble not because of their Trotskyist communism and consequently eccentric view of democracy, but as members of a formal organization.

It seems there is nothing to stop Labour Party members, including MPs and councillors, "holding particular opinions" derived from Lenin, Stalin, Trotsky or the fashionable Italian communist Gramsci so long as there is no "clear proof" they belong to a secretive disciplined organization.

The voter looks in vain to Neil Kinnock to reassure him that Labour is not a home or vehicle for Marxists. All Kinnock will say is that if such Marxists band together in a formal organization - less formal ones are tolerated - and if there is "clear proof" of their membership, then a few of them, literally a dozen in as many years, might, if he can eventually manage it, lose their party cards.

Last week's belated, misdirected and failed tweak is referred to by the Marxists as "a widespread purge" and show trial. The second is not because it is unfair but because it is a piece of showmanship designed to calm fears, without attacking Labour's ideological corruption. A real purge would be different. It would take in all supporters of Militant occupying posts as Labour party members, Labour MPs such as Terry Fields and Dave Nellist and others such as Frances Curran. Young Socialist representatives on the NEC, who has appeared on Militant platforms.

Local Labour politicians who have supported the views of Trotskyists, or even Militant, such as Ted Knight and Ken Livingstone, could be identified without much argument. Their extremism has scarcely been secret, while Livingstone's declaration that the Labour Party should "make Parliament workable in the interests of our class". Indeed, Livingstone has a specific warning for those who think the original

SDP fears are dated: "You will see a completely different parliamentary Labour party, because half will be new people, largely coming from the hard left and the soft left". Yes, a half.

Less time need be wasted on Tony Benn who explains: "The Labour party... has been able to depend upon a sort of ideology that came out of the Communist party. The 'Communist' party in the trade unions provided a radical ideology, trained core and around that the Labour party was a popular front". And, speaking of Trotskyist, Stalinist and other socialist groups: "I support them all".

Benn thinks the *Morning Star* "overwhelmingly the best newspaper in Britain". It is, of course, the organ of the ultra-Stalinist faction expelled from the Communist Party for its embarrassingly slavish pro-Soviet line and unabashed zeal for class warfare. Any Labour politician writing him, supporting it or, as did Scottish Labour leaders recently, circulating a letter throughout the Scottish Labour movement to promote it would be disciplined in any party worthy of the name.

Conversely, communists, expelled with the paper and then expelled from the Communist Party for their Stalinism, should scarcely be received into the Labour Party. Yet the *Guardian* of May 21 last year, suggested that some would be and others already had been admitted. Conscientious witch hunters would also feel obliged to inspect the persistent pro-communist "friendship" and "peace" organizations of MPs and MCRs James Lammie and Alf Lomas.

A complete purge should, we hesitate to ask searching questions about Kinnock himself and his openness to communist advice, in particular that of Communist Party theoretician Eric Hooper, to whom, according to the *Observer*, Kinnock has paid "extravagant tribute" and whom he says has provided Labour "with the bridge and mortar of reconstruction". The only deed which would satisfy ordinary voters would be a radical purge of all Marxists, both those friendly to Trotskyist groups and, the more serious if less publicized problem, those friendly to the Communist Party. That he refuses to do.

It may be that a majority within the Labour Party sees nothing odd in its promiscuous relations with the Trotskyists, Stalinists and the Communist Party. In that case there is no need for a purge at all. All that is necessary is that Labour be recognized for what it is. The SDP leaders, though, they had grasped its true identity five years ago. There is nothing today to suggest they were wrong.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

For Easter eggheads

Lord Moreover, the proprietor of this column, occasionally bounces into the office with a new selection of his profound philosophical thoughts which he intends to publish under the title *The Wit and Wisdom of Lord Moreover*. Until that day dawns, he graciously allows me to print his new selection, which at least gives me the day off even if it does not raise the tone of the column. Today is one of those days. All yours, your Lordship.

President Reagan seems to be under the impression that his Star Wars idea is a new concept. This is not so. The last time it was put forward, it was called the Magnet Line. It was not successful then, either.

When Mrs Thatcher recently announced an anti-crime drive against people who robbed ordinary citizens of all their money, I detected a distinct frisson in the City of London.

Mr Winston Churchill's drive against cruelty and violence on TV seems to be working. We have not been allowed to see anything of the present Test series against the West Indies, which could have damaged the minds of an entire generation.

So-and-so was recently described to me as being the salt of the earth. "Salt of the earth?" I said. "You mean, he is white, common and a danger to everyone's health?"

At the end of every film and TV programme there is a long list of people who worked on it, from the producer down to the lowliest second unit hairdresser's assistant. It is quite different on newspapers, where none of the staff except the writers is mentioned at all, not even the editor. Every time I read a paper, I get the impression that everyone concerned has asked for his name to be taken off the credits.

So-and-so was recently described to me as having had a meteoric career. "Meteoric career?" I said. "You mean he fell to earth at high speed and burnt out?"

Last week I was induced to watch a new chat show on BBC-2, fronted by an American comedienne called Joan Rivers. The chief novelty of the programme seems to be that Joan Rivers has never heard of any of her guests, and has to have them explained to her by Peter Cook. She then asks them about the size of their bosom (if they are female) or about the quality of their love life (if they are

male) or both (if they are both). Would it not save time if Peter Cook asked the guests these questions beforehand and then passed on the information to Miss Rivers? Better still, would it not be possible to have a doctor on hand who could explain all these things and thus replace Miss Rivers, Cook and the guests? But perhaps I have not fully understood the point of the programme.

Last week I was induced to go to West End theatre. We drove there through a fierce maelstrom of traffic. We found a parking place with all the difficulty of Mr Derek Hatton attempting to stay in the Labour Party. We fought our way into the theatre - and found a parking place for our coats. We battled into the bar and eventually cajoled the barman into leaving a drink for the interval, despite announcements that "The play will commence in one minute". After we had waded our way along our row in the stalls, I said to my companion, "Nothing on stage can possibly be as dramatic or tense as what we have already experienced", and as the curtain rose, we left and went home.

I recently bought a box of Bryant and May's matches. It had four colours on the front: green, red, yellow and black. It had a cartoon on the back. It also had a stern warning article on life, namely: "Keep in a safe place and away from children". That is not a warning I thought I had bought a Bryant and May's matchbox.

The *Times* recently printed a photograph of Graham Gooch, the English batsman, being escorted on the back by two West Indian supporters. The caption read: "Graham Gooch being mobbed by two Trinidadians". This has given me an idea for a book to be called "Great Small Moments of History".

So-and-so was recently described to me as having taken some *small nips* like a man. "Like a man?" I said. "You mean, he broke down, got drunk and went home in his wife's?"

The man next to me on the train was wearing a most unusual pair of personal stereo headphones, unusual, because no one was listening out of them. I asked him his secret. "This is not a personal stereo," he said. "It is a pair of ear muffs. I wear it to prevent the hearing other people's personal stereo."



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A UNIONIST GESTURE

Maintaining public order is an overriding responsibility of government. It takes precedence over the purely political interests of Ministers. If therefore the Ulster Secretary, Mr Tom King, and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Sir John Hermon, had good reason to believe that the loyalist march in Portadown was likely to be transformed by "paramilitary and subversive elements" into a general insurrection, they had little choice but to ban it.

Concern for Protestant susceptibilities would have to take second place to protecting the public against explosion and widespread violence.

Once imposed, however, such a prohibition must also be properly enforced. If marchers defy a ban — and do so, moreover, with something like ease — the only real effect of prohibition is to make the law look ridiculous and the authorities impotent. Those are not lessons anyone should wish to see inculcated in Northern Ireland.

Yet that is exactly what has happened since late Sunday night. The ban provoked an immediate protest march of between 3,000 and 5,000 people (the estimates of, respectively, the police and the organisers). It caught the police by surprise. And it passed off seemingly without a hitch.

Mr Paisley promptly claimed a victory for loyalism. And despite the paradox of loyalist defiance of Crown proclamations, it is difficult, for once, to deny his claim. The assembling of a large, apparently impromptu and peaceful demonstration after midnight was a more impressive display of Unionist oppo-

sition to the Anglo-Irish agreement than any traditional orchestrated parade would have been.

But with this example of successful defiance of the law before them, Portadown loyalists yesterday rioted in earnest. It was one of the worst days there for many years with both rioters and police seriously injured — though in other parts of Ulster small parades passed off quietly.

There was a further reason for yesterday's riots. Many Unionists simply did not believe the authorities' story. If the paramilitaries had not hijacked the post-midnight protest march to attack the police, they doubted that there ever was a real plan to transform the Apprentice Boys' march into a province-wide rebellion at all. Certainly violence such as bombs on the marchers' route would have killed and injured almost exclusively its Protestant supporters.

There is consequently a strong case for releasing the original information to the public. Without supporting evidence, it will appear to many Unionists that the police acted, to ban a loyalist demonstration on slight grounds, when only the previous day they had allowed a republican march in Londonderry to commemorate the 1916 Easter Rising (a march, moreover, during which a soldier was shot in the face).

Such apparent favouritism will worsen the fears of Unionists already nervous that the Anglo-Irish agreement means a gradual surrender of their interests. They complain of being impaled on Morton's Fork. If they confine their

protests to Parliament and political channels, they are ignored. But if they take to the streets in protest, the British government is urged by both Dublin and the SDLP to challenge their "bluff" by banning their marches.

Such fears have been further exacerbated in recent days by the controversy over Ministry of Defence contracts for two oil auxiliary vessels. This pits the Belfast yards of Harland and Wolff against Tyneside's newly-privatised Swan Hunter. Harland and Wolff have submitted the lowest tender which, under the Defence Ministry's competitive tendering system, should win them the contract. To meet the objection that nationalised Harland and Wolff is trading with a bounty, independent accountants have certified that their tender is altogether free of state subsidy.

The issue is as yet undecided. In the present state of Ulster opinion, however, failure to grant the contract to Harland and Wolff would confirm the nervous feeling abroad that the British government is planning a gradual withdrawal from the province.

The Northern Ireland authorities could give no worse impression to the Unionist majority than to seem both hostile and impotent. Such a combination of attitudes is an invitation to violence as yesterday's rioting showed. Ministers should at least be considering the range of gestures they might make to assure Unionists that they are as much full and welcome members of the United Kingdom now as they were before the Hillsborough agreement was signed.

THE CZECH COURSE BACK TO 1968

The five-yearly Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, which ended in Prague last week, offered the dispiriting spectacle of a once-great nation demeaning itself before a powerful neighbour, Gustav Husak, leader of a formerly democratic and cultured country with a highly developed and efficient industry, spoke about lessons his country had to learn from the Soviet Union, a country whose standards of democracy, living and industry still fall far short of those enjoyed years ago by the people of Czechoslovakia.

Summing up progress made over the past five years, Mr Husak listed failings that needed to be rooted out of Czechoslovak life: inefficiency, laziness, dishonesty, bureaucratic bumbling, abuse of privilege. He could hardly have provided a more comprehensive survey of the defects inherent in the Soviet system. In effect, Mr Husak was appealing to his people to unlearn habits learned in their 40-year practice of Soviet-style socialism.

Yet there was little need for Czechoslovakia to apologise to Moscow. The West criticises Czechoslovakia for slavishly following the Soviet foreign policy line of the moment, and for denying its intellectuals their freedom, but on the comparative scale of the Eastern bloc its economy is no disgrace. Growth rates have been respectable. They are second only to those of East Germany according to major indicators. Dairy production is

one of the perennial problems throughout the Soviet bloc yet in Czechoslovakia has increased. Living standards are among the highest in Eastern Europe, certainly higher than in the Soviet Union.

But these are things about which the Czechoslovak leader cannot boast to Moscow. For Czechoslovakia's experience demonstrates, in two quite distinct ways, the consequences of what Mr Gorbachev appears to be planning for the Soviet Union. In the first place it illustrates what cannot be achieved by merely tinkering with the system. In the second, it illustrates the likely consequences if something more than tinkering is attempted.

Czechoslovakia has an economy with many of the features Mr Gorbachev wants to apply to the Soviet Union already in place: streamlining of the central planning apparatus, smaller-scale enterprises, relatively productive agriculture. Yet it still suffers from the waste and indiscipline that are anathema to the Soviet leader. Mr Husak paid lip service to the tentative management changes set out by the Soviet leader a month ago, but they would make little difference in Czechoslovakia.

In the second place, Czechoslovakia is a living example of the risks of comprehensive economic reform — of the kind Mr Gorbachev may be tempted to contemplate if, as is only too likely, his proposed limited changes do not achieve the desired effect. Alexander

Dubcek's "socialism with a human face" was based on a blueprint for radical economic reform; it was real reform and not the distortion which masquerades under the term in Eastern Europe today. Its prospect caused Leonid Brezhnev to send Soviet tanks to Prague. Since then, reform — real reform — has been a forbidden word in Czechoslovakia. It cannot be used even today. And its use by Mr Gorbachev at the Soviet Party Congress a month ago was pointedly not echoed by Mr Husak last week.

Both Moscow and Prague now face a dilemma. On the one hand, Mr Husak and his leadership team, all virtually unchanged since 1968, are throwbacks to the Brezhnev era. They represent for the younger leaders in Moscow exactly the inflexibility they are trying to wean Soviet bureaucracy away from. On this account alone, Moscow might well want change in Prague.

On the other hand, Czechoslovakia has quietly made a limited success of its economy, where the Soviet Union has patently failed. And it has done so without making any gestures in the direction of democracy. By the optimistic standards of the Gorbachev leadership, however, not enough has yet been achieved. Czechoslovakia is not, in the new Soviet view, fulfilling its economic potential. Can it do so without charting a course back to 1968? Many in Czechoslovakia will doubt it.

DEMOCRACY DELAYED IN HAITI

It is now nearly two months since Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier bade a hurried farewell to Haiti. For most of those he left behind the problems of life under the thumb of a dictator seemed at last to be over. Were they too optimistic?

Amid growing unrest last week Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy, leader of the six-man junta which took over the government after Duvalier, sacked three colleagues whose association with the ancien regime had made them unacceptable to most Haitians. That in itself was popular enough. But the resignation, also last week, of the human rights leader Gerard Gourgue has left General Namphy president of a truncated council — and nothing in sight to replace it.

This government must be a transitional one. It took over hurriedly at a moment when Port-au-Prince was threatened by anarchy. Hubert de Romeray, one of several politicians who are starting to

jostle for eventual power, has called on people to support the restructured ruling council — not because it is the ideal government but because it is the only kind there is. Without the military to impose law and order on the island, the fear is that common chaos would return.

But this cannot entirely allay the concern of those outside Haiti who suspect that most Haitians will want change towards democracy to come rather more quickly. Not that democratic government is any guarantee of stability or success. But the protests which have already begun against the general and his colleagues, show that it is what the population wants. To resist demands for free elections for long would risk polarizing public opinion.

The United States is in the best position to bring home to General Namphy the need for swifter progress towards free elections. It was Washington which engineered the removal of President-for-life Duvalier.

It is Washington again which can help to guide Haiti towards a more stable future.

It will not be an easy task. The leader of Haiti's Communist Party is among those who have returned from exile following the events of two months ago. Advice and finance from nearby Cuba will doubtless be coming his way soon.

There will be a temptation for Washington to assume that a tightly controlled military government offers the best hope of keeping communist influences away from the island. In the unstable climate of post-Duvalier Haiti, however, the Communist cause would be helped rather than hindered by signs of military resistance to the popular will — and even more so by any suggestion that the United States approved.

Washington would thus be well-advised to take risks on the side of faster progress to democracy. That, fortunately, seems to be its present inclination.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Civil Service as spur to reform

From the Minister of State, Privy Council Office
Sir, Your editorial of March 27, "Reversing down Whitehall", needs answering. As Minister with day-to-day responsibility for the Civil Service I welcome your lead in discussing the role of the Civil Service. But your arguments lack cohesion.

Two important questions need to be posed. Is the Civil Service an obstacle to the carrying out of an elected government of its policy programme? And is the Civil Service as efficient and professional as it should be?

The first question is broadly answered by examining this Government's achievements in the last seven years. In that period we have pursued radical reformist policies on trade unionism, home ownership, privatisation, training and taxation amongst others. Plans are in hand for major reforms on, for example, social welfare, education and local government finance. These are all major changes which the Civil Service has loyally helped to implement.

On the second question, your editorial fails to acknowledge the scale of the management reforms which have taken place in the Civil Service since 1979 under the Prime Minister's leadership. The Civil Service is now smaller than it has been ever since the Second World War, slimmer by 20 per cent since 1979. The work of the Efficiency Unit (which will continue vigorously in its task under the leadership of Sir Robin Ibbotson of ICI), reinforced by the financial management initiative, has already transformed the management of the Service, bringing home to civil servants at all levels the need constantly to question existing practices and procedures and to keep a tighter

control on costs. For the first time line managers now have clearly defined responsibility both for the tasks which they carry out and for the resources they use.

Nothing could be further from the truth than your suggestion that the process of reform is in reverse. There is, of course, still much more to do, to consolidate and follow through the series of related initiatives in the management of money, people and physical assets. But today we undoubtedly have a Civil Service which not only retains all the traditional virtues but is also efficient and professional. Civil Servants deserve enormous credit for carrying through our programme of management reforms with determination and commitment.

There are of course many other aspects of government which merit public debate. The complexity, the growth of select committees, the demand for more information and the role of political advisers all pose interesting and important questions about the relationship between ministers and civil servants. The Select Committee on the Treasury and Civil Service will shortly be reporting on this and will doubtless stimulate further discussion.

The Government will be seriously considering these questions very soon. We shall also continue to press ahead with the programme of management reforms which I have outlined. I fully agree with your view however that "institutionalised reform is not a substitute for economic and social policies to regenerate Britain", and I regret the tendency in some quarters to suggest otherwise.

Yours etc,
RICHARD LUCE,
Cabinet Office,
Great George Street, SW1.
March 29.

Design for industry

From Mr James Dyson
Sir, I was interested to read the letters in your March 17 issue on the MSC. Whilst the much heralded, and advertised, MSC is no doubt a worthwhile scheme, what is not generally known or publicised is that it is accompanied by, and no doubt financed by, a massive closure of art and design courses around the country. In other words, this Government is robbing design colleges to pay for the MSC; they are merely shifting resources and are not providing additional training funds.

It is no good pretending that "Spiky Doodles" is going to be a big threat to Japan" (full page MSC advert in *The Times*, March 15). I have spent seven out of the last 18 months designing products in Japan. I am convinced that the only way for Britain to export successfully is to produce original and well-designed products — a view constantly expressed by the Prime Minister herself. The core of Japan's success is her enthusiasm and mania for design and

product perfection.

It is often said that Britain produces lots of talented art students whom industry then ignores. This is complacent and dangerous nonsense. Britain does not produce anything like enough talented design graduates. Go and see the standard and volume of Japanese design graduates before being satisfied about Britain's provision for its design future.

There are signs that the Design Council's costly efforts to persuade industry to use designers are starting to work. UK design practices are enjoying a boom and are recruiting heavily. Galleries in the USA, which sell young artists work, have increased tenfold in the last five years.

If we want to "threaten Japan" then we should now be putting more money into educating more artists and designers of a high standard, not axe the institutions we have carefully built up.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES DYSON,
Scamocro House,
Bathford,
Bath, Avon.

The Savery case

From Mr Charanjit Singh
Sir, The job of Avon's Multi-cultural Education Centre (MEC) is to tackle racism and not simply to teach English. Anti-racism is not a "provocative and disruptive creed" but a recognition of black peoples' right to freedom.

I also object strongly to being labelled as a militant in a derogatory way. I am simply a teacher working towards justice and upholding Avon's education policies.

Justice for black and white children; but it must be understood that the nature of racism is such that it is black people's

freedom that is being continually eroded by this racist society. Ronald Butt's article (March 13) contributes to that very erosion; racism (injustice), as you will appreciate, needs to be challenged.

It is quite right and proper for black people, as victims of racism, to have the space to articulate their experiences and feelings. If a teacher uses her/his freedom to impede the freedom of others then this can hardly be called justice.

Yours sincerely,
CHARANJIT SINGH,
44 Station Road,
Ashley Down,
Bristol, Avon.

Top chunks

From the Principal of St. Chad's College, Durham
Sir, Your news item (March 13) concerning the High Court injunction against the use of the name Oxbridge prompts recollection of an earlier marmalade story.

J.E.B. Mayor, Professor of Latin at Cambridge from 1872 until his death at the age of 25 in 1910, was well known for his vegetarian ideas. Among his many publications was a pamphlet entitled *Modicus cibi medicus sibi*: he was himself believed to subsist on a daily diet of brown bread, bananas and water.

Professor Mayor instructed his housekeeper to make a marmalade to his own specification. This he sold in a food reform shop

which he had opened in Cambridge. Trouble arose from the fact that the lady put the confection into any old jam pots she could come by.

Shortly afterwards this announcement appeared in a number of newspapers: "Be it hereby known that I, John Eyton Bickerton Mayor, do most humbly apologise to Messrs. Kellier and Sons of Dundee, for selling marmalade in vessels distinguished by their trade-mark and I thank them for accepting this confession in lieu of legal proceedings."

Yours faithfully,
RONALD TROUSON,
Principal,
St Chad's College,
Durham.

Skirting the issue

From Mrs Y. M. Newbold
Sir, I could scarcely believe that the Midlands dressmaker who detected a difference in the telephone manner between mothers and daughters (Mrs Thurstfield's letter, March 26) actually prefers mother's informality to daughter's businesslike approach.

I prefer the latter. Throughout my business life I've been irritated by the "m'dear" approach from both women and men who often

act as if mature years confer a licence to patronise.

In fact, it may warm Mrs Thurstfield's heart to know that a total stranger picked up the telephone in answer to a call I made the other day to the Midlands and called me "m'luv" quite freely. I learned later that he is 22. I am a lawyer. Probably about the same age as Mrs Thurstfield.

Yours faithfully,
Y. M. NEWBOLD,
40 Devonshire Place Mews W1.
March 26.

Gulf of Sirte

From Mr Miles Copeland sr
Sir, I leave it to my betters in Washington to carry on the debate over whether or not we "had a right" to send our Navy and

airplanes into the Gulf of Sirte, but may I express the hope that some of them are concerning themselves with its relevancy, if any, to what President Reagan has called our "war against international terrorism" and the question of whether or not our doing has improved or damaged our position in that war.

For example, have we really "clipped Gaddafi's wings", as a US

Government spokesman claimed on BBC's *Newsnight*, or have we strengthened his position in Libya, Third World and elsewhere? Do we now have more friends and supporters throughout the world, or fewer? Are the positions of "moderate" Arab leaders now more secure, or less? Do our European allies now have more confidence in our leadership, or less?

Are we and these allies now more united, or have the Soviets received yet another boost in their admitted objective to split us? Are we now likely to have more terrorism or less, and are the

Divorce a cause of State decay

From Mr George G. Brown
Sir, The Divorce Reform Act of 1969 led to an increase in divorce in our country which amounts to a revolution. During the past 15 years the number of divorces has, in round terms, trebled and the rate of increase is the highest in western civilisation; so that soon, half of all marriages may end in divorce.

This development has deep political, social and religious implications for our national life. Political implications, because the family, still for the most part formed by marriage, is the foundation of democracy and a barrier against the excessive power of the State.

Because, there are indications from recent legislation that Parliament now considers divorce as the norm and that marriage is simply a contract for a period; this in turn threatens a clash between Church and State, and therefore the assumption that the royal prerogative is based on Christian principles.

Social implications, because we now have 1.5 million children living in one million one-parent families; because as the divorce rate has risen there has been widespread moral decay, with the rate of illegitimacy, abortion, children in care, juvenile crime and drug abuse increasing proportionately; because the financial cost to the country is well over £1 billion a year; and because there is widespread misery, with 50 per cent of the second marriages failing.

Religious implications, because we are a Judeo-Christian civilisation and for 2,000 years the Church has preached that marriage is for life. The Church's attitude to the divorce revolution has in general been permissive, but as the divorce rate has risen, so has church attendance declined.

There are now clear signs of national moral decay and at the heart of that decay is the divorce revolution. Is it not time that consideration was given to amending the Divorce Reform Act 1969, by now consolidated into the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE G. BROWN,
2 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.

Finding a fake

From Mr Alan Bishop
Sir, Mr Graham Chainey's noble plea (March 12) that all paintings should be assessed by their own inherent beauty and by nothing else, though not without its difficulties, would in an ideal world be the only criterion for such evaluations.

Unfortunately, it is not the skill of the artist but the fame of his name which, in all the arts, usually determines the price that must be paid for every daisy canvas or faded manuscript. Would the now dimly delineated painting of the Holy Family to be sold by Sotheby's at Monte Carlo in June have made your front page (March 17) if it were not believed to be by Mantegna? One strongly doubts it.

Once the identity of a great name can confidently be given to any newly discovered canvas, however unimpressive, a fortune will be asked of its purchaser and many will be those who may aspire to pay it.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BISHOP,
23A Guest Road,
Cambridge.
March 18.

Hard to grasp

From Mr R. J. O. Meyer
Sir, Mrs Peggy Pitt (February 21) asks readers for advice on her problem of opening plastic-encased articles with fingers that are old and arthritic. In my early eighties I had the same problem until one night, wishing to read in bed after the ball was over, I went through the list: no help from "wig on the wall" (no pins), "wooden leg in the corner" (out of hopping distance) or "bottle of dye", but false teeth (in the water close to hand) worked wonders, and my magazine was soon torn open.

The fact that I had left my signifying glass in the bathroom really does not magnify anything except my success.

I look forward with equanimity to anything the plastic boys throw at me in the nineties, and my royalties from the book, *Meyer on the Correct Use of Demure in a Plastic World*, should ensure the presence of a re-cycling machine which would be computerised into bringing me the dye, leg and wig every morning for re-assembly.

Yours etc,
R. J. O. MEYER,
St Lawrence College,
Philothet,
Athens,
Greece.
March 10.

terrorists (whom Chairman Mao called "the fish") going to have more popular support ("the sea") or less?

It seems clear enough that our action in this instance has boosted the popularity of President Reagan at home. Must such actions necessarily be at odds with what it takes to sustain a strong American position on the international gameboard?

Yours,
MILES COPELAND,
3 The Green,
Aston Rowant,
March 26.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 1 1913

In March 1912 the Postmaster-General, Herbert Samuel, accepted the tender of the British Marconi Company for building wireless stations.

Lloyd George (Chancellor of the Exchequer) and Sir Rufus Isaacs (Attorney General) had bought, after the tender had been accepted, shares in the parallel American Marconi, an act which aroused rumours and innuendo about profit making. Both men admitted to an error of judgment and apologized to the Commons. In October a Select Committee began an investigation. Its favourable report was debated in the House which resolved that it "acquires them of acting otherwise than in good faith, and reproaches the charges of corruption... which have been proved to be wholly false."

MARCONI INQUIRY MR LLOYD GEORGE'S FINAL STATEMENTS

The evidence of Mr. Lloyd George before the Select Committee of the House of Commons was concluded yesterday, but not until very near the close of the sitting. For the last 20 minutes of the witness-chair was occupied by the Postmaster-General, Sir Albert Spicer, president, and there was once more a crowded Committee-room. The earlier part of the proceedings was marked by interruptions from male suffragists, with whom the police dealt faithfully and expeditiously.

Mr. Lloyd George began by disclaiming a suggestion imputed to him by some newspapers that he wished to revive charges against the Chamberlain family. He had no such wish; he had confined himself strictly to the principles he had laid down in 1900, and had only gone beyond that to state that if the old controversies were revived the responsibility would not be his. The reference to "principles" proved too much for a suffragist, who protested to his own speedy undoing. Lord Robert Cecil, resuming his examination took Mr. Lloyd George back to the sale and purchase of the American shares, the arithmetic of which still proved troublesome. Then he was told by the witness that although no money passed between him and Sir Rufus Isaacs there would have been no difficulty in finding the £2,000 required. A little later Lord Robert and Mr. Lloyd George amicably discussed the meaning of "investment" and "speculation". A suggestion that the witness might produce a list of his dealings in stocks and shares since 1910 occasioned some remonstrance on the part of members, but Mr. Lloyd George was found to have such a list with him ready for scrutiny.

THE "MATIN" CASE AGAIN
An extract from an article in the *National Review* was next read. Lord Robert Cecil suggested that it seemed to hint at gambling by Ministers in American Marconi shares as well as in shares of the English company. Mr. Lloyd George replied that if there was any such hint it was much to be regretted for him to take legal action upon it, and it was not present to his mind when he intervened in the Commons debate of October last.

Mr. Faber was the next to examine Mr. Lloyd George, and with him the witness proved a little restive. He protested that questions were being asked over and over again, even into the fifteenth time. When Mr. Faber desired to know how it was that, having bought shares for investment purposes, he sold them within three days, Mr. Lloyd George retorted by asking what Mr. Faber would have done in similar circumstances with any railway shares; and thought it was a "ridiculous proposition" to suggest that shares bought for investment should not be sold when they went unexpectedly high. Later, when Mr. Faber tried to get Mr. Lloyd George to "admit" that the English company was interested in the American company, the latter objected to the word "admit" as not a question of admission; it was merely a fact. To Mr. Faber the witness also made the "specific declaration" that, apart from the transactions already detailed, he had had no dealings in Marconi Company shares.

After luncheon Mr. Macmaster took up the examination. He drew attention to the omission from the circular of the English Marconi Company (which referred to the conclusion of the agreement with the Government) of any reference to the clause enabling the Postmaster-General to displace the Marconi patents if he thought fit; but Mr. Lloyd George would not follow him into this, as he had not seen the circular in question.

Towards the close of the examination Mr. Lloyd George referred at some length to the evidence of Mr. Maxse, who, as it happened, was present. He protested with emphasis that if any members of Parliament had communicated slanders to journalists, it was their duty to come forward and state them specifically. Nothing could be more discreditable than to circulate slanderous rumours and skulk behind other persons when the time came to formulate the charges openly. Such members were dishonouring the Parliament to which they belonged.

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THE ARTS

Television
Against
the facts
of life

An extraordinary chronicle of social engineering was provided by *The Secret Diaries of the Film Censors* (Channel 4), a dramatized presentation based on documents held in the National Film Archive which record the work of the British Board of Film Censors in the period up to 1939.

The censors appeared to have been appointed on the grounds of their complete ignorance, not only of the cinema but of any other form of artistic endeavour. Their job was to keep British cinema free of such morally corrupting topics as sex, violence, bad language and political criticism.

They codified their prohibitions in a list which blatantly bracketed nudity, childbirth and cruelty to animals with "relations of capital and labour" and that in an era of "British three million unemployed" when applied in detail, the censors' rulings meant that any and fascist or anti-fascist criticism was banned along with words like "nappies". It was, however, quite in order for British audiences to hear anti-American sentiments.

The censors blithely banned films they had never seen, and operated in a mood of paternalistic care for the susceptibilities of the 16 million people of immature judgement who went to the cinema every week. In modern times, when the mass media have few restraints, the programme was a useful reminder of the mechanism by which political debate can be suppressed under the guise of promoting public propriety.

The lessons of the past were also the subject of *Mysteries of Peru* (Channel 4), the second of two documentaries about vanished pre-Inca civilizations. Their mastery of engineering, traced the Andes and covered the country with a vast network of irrigation canals. Nevertheless, their civilizations died out.

Peter Spary-Lewis's documentary first marshalled the archaeological research and concluded that these societies died because their phenomenal skills were still no match for the freak floods and volcanic land movements which are still characteristic of lowland Peru.

The programme then demonstrated that modern engineers have learnt nothing from this story of devastation, and are still building towns and roads in places vulnerable to destruction by the same forces. The lesson of history was being ignored because it was the history of the Indian race, and therefore not considered significant by the Spanish-descended ruling elite.

Celia Brayfield

Many people seem to envy the man who runs a theatre, with or without the omnipresent GLC; Paul Gane of the Fortune Theatre suggests that the reality could be just a shade disillusioning...

Drama with the Men
from the Ministry

Another interesting week ahead, I tell myself, as I stroll purposefully on the Monday morning from my central London home to Covent Garden. There is nothing like being the eternal optimist: perhaps it is having heard on the Saturday night from my box-office manageress that the house was full. Running a modest West End theatre, lock, stock and barrel, would seem to be the ambition of many of my friends, or so they tell me. Little do they know.

The house boards are out ready for business, indicating that the box-office staff are at work. Indeed, three strangers already hover in the foyer, but past experience alerts me that they are not potential theatre-goers, but "waiting for the manager". I'll pretend it's not me. "These gentlemen are for you" — a voice from the box-office. I promise to give them my attention once I have removed my coat. They, in turn, promise to be patient.

In my office, four flights up on the roof of my small domain, I have time to consult my diary and remind myself that these gentlemen are from the Ministry. They have come to do the annual inspection of the premises — two from the GLC and the other from the Fire Department. I call my master-carpenter to conduct

them round, having given them a warm and smiling greeting. Were they not here six months ago? "Yes, but we like to get ahead of ourselves." The phone rings. It is the box office. "There are three young ladies here want to know if there are any auditions." That was last Friday, tell them. "And while you're on the line, the ice-cream man can't find the key to the fridge, and the gas man is here to read the meter."

Let's look at the figures for last week. A marvellous Saturday, a good Friday, a bit thin Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Anyway, the bars were busy. Another ring on the phone. The men are here to clean the carpet, because they were informed someone was sick in the stalls on Saturday night. Well, I did say the bar figures were good.

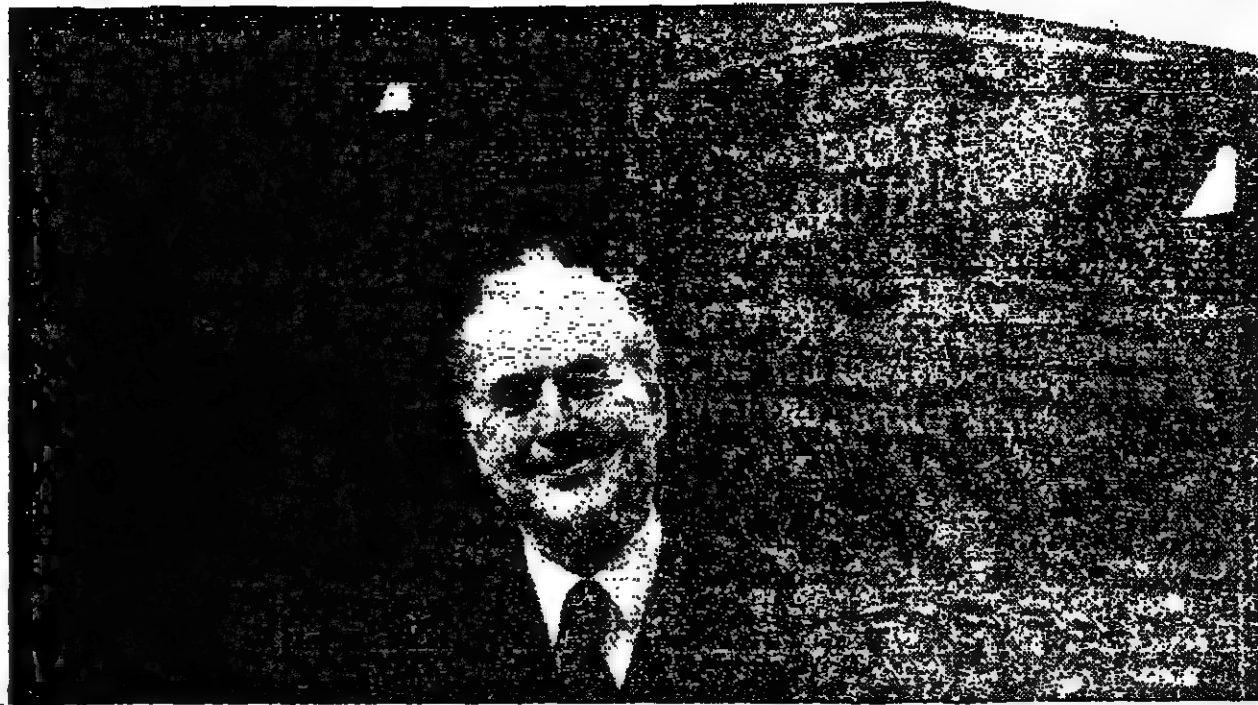
The post reminds me that the VAT returns are due, and the Inland Revenue want their monthly cheque. Neither seems to care much whether I am in profit or loss, providing the former gets 15 per cent of everything and the latter gets what's left. A note from my front-of-house manager tells me that a man from another Ministry called on Saturday, unannounced, to inform us that we must make certain alterations to our existing bar. He requires three sinks in-

stead of two; it seems that two are not enough in which to wash your hands, and he wants plans submitted before we do anything. I had better give the man a call. He is out but he will call me back — want to bet?

My master-carpenter says that the two men from the other Ministry seem quite happy, with a few exceptions. They would like more signs up to say "Fire Exit", but they never mentioned that last time. Yes, but they have mentioned it this time and would like more signs up. The fireman also says we need more signs giving fire instructions, and they must be properly framed and glazed. Right, anything else?

Yes, they saw we have a curtain which is not properly fireproofed when they tried to get light to it, that two of our seats are a bit loose, and that two of our doors do not close properly. They have reminded us we need a ceiling certificate in three months' time and a safety-curtain certificate in four months' time. No problem with the emergency lighting certificate which they received last week. The fireman spotted some of our fire appliances need re-certification, and I shall get another bill for the privilege of leaving my canopy in position.

Now why were the times of our performances wrongly stated in one of the classified ads last Friday? We must ask



Photograph of Paul Gane by David Miller

what they require." The phone rings. The sewers cannot be blocked again — no, this time it is another man from the Ministry. "A man downstairs to look at the canopy." I had better see him myself. After all, I have to climb these stairs, so why shouldn't he?

"Good morning. It's three years since your canopy was checked and certificated." He assures me that "it's not going anywhere" and that he will be contacting me. I recall one of his colleagues coming a few months back to look on the roof to see that the air-conditioning structure was not going anywhere either. On that occasion he sent me a bill for £20 for the privilege of re-certificating, and I doubtless I shall get another bill for the privilege of leaving my canopy in position.

The afternoon meeting of the Society of West End Theatre is a quarterly affair. As I look around the distin-

guished faces, I wonder if they, too, have been faced with the big decisions of this business — blocked sewers and programme printing. Surely not the top brass of the National Theatre companies whose pre-occupation is to increase their Arts Council grants. I wonder how it is possible perhaps to get in on the act for one of these grants, I mean, so far my taxes have been happily supporting them and improving the quality of their productions to attract my customers. Still, we mustn't be selfish — after all, it is good for the soul to work for the greater glory of this theatrical profession.

I return in time to find the neon lights blinking and the first sign of activity of the leisure-going public. My secretary has accumulated a list of those who have called, and prepared numerous cheques for our suppliers, not forgetting maintenance, electricity, gas, rates, telephones, salary

of course, the VAT man. There was one important call — a man from the GLC phoned about the Sunday concert for young people coming within their definition of a "pop concert", for which you require permission. They thank you for your letter of notification but remind you that your annual licence is for plays only, and this is outside the scope. No problem though, they are sending a supplementary form — it's a formality, they need an additional fee of £150. Did you remind them that the so-called "pop concert" is a celebration by their people to mark the end of the GLC? Yes, and they were not amused.

I reflect as I walk out into the darkening streets to make my way home — what fun it is to be in the creative arts and not just doing a routine office job.

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Galleries

A passionate interest in what man can create

Kasmin
KnoedlerImpressionist
Drawings
AshmoleanRoger de Grey
New Art Centre

Kasmin has declared that living with art is as natural as the prince of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries found in the *agere provocateur* for contemporary art has turned his gallery into a cabinet of curiosities. Famous as the discoverer of Hockney and the promoter of American art, the dealer who wished to be a poet has opened up his personal visual library. The magazine's nest of cultures is not intended to be seen in competition with the work he normally shows. Collectors like the Sainsburys have long proved that Polynesian, African and other tribal art can cohabit happily with the most recent painting

● A Jockey: an all-too-rare Degas in Impressionist Drawings

and sculpture as they do in Kasmin's home. Except for a small 17th-century still-life, Kasmin has temporarily forgotten about the graphic arts, so that the visitor to the exhibition is forced to realize that throughout his dealing career his motivation has been a passionate interest in what man can create.

Kasmin's small show (until Saturday) is the perfect complement to last year's *Primitivism in 20th-Century Art* at New York's Museum of Modern Art. The American blockbuster employed an academic sledge-hammer to connect modern and "primitive" art, whereas the varied collections at Knoedler expand on the theme of cross-fertilization. They suggest that civilized man by definition has to be curious about all other cultures. There are many pieces that might well have graced the most sophisticated grandee's cabinet: in particular a Nuremberg (or Augsburg) 16th-century box inked with perspectival tricks.

One leaves Kasmin's gallery, however, not with a burning memory of any one object but with a vision of a man surrounded by art. Kasmin's assortment of articles, often relatively cheap and sometimes broken, is patently a vital ingredient in his life. Drawings used to be firmly within the preserve of the connoisseur, but in

the last fifteen years there has been a dramatic change in attitude. The travelling show of Impressionist Drawings, now at the Ashmolean (until April 20, then visiting Manchester and Glasgow), has already proved a crowd-puller. It is not a large show, being culled exclusively from British collections. It hides its arguments behind some sentimental work, for it is obviously designed to have a broad appeal. It maintains an all-embracing definition of Impressionism. Its restricted size and homely presentation vaguely echo Kasmin's declaration of war against museum art.

Impressionist Drawings emphatically denies that drawing is the negation of the spirit of Impressionism. The sheer diversity of technique and exploitation of media and the paper itself is the main evidence. The bountiful use of chalk and pastel attacks the traditional divide between pencil and the paintbrush. It is quite clear that this group of artists was searching for spontaneity in every medium it used. The organizers of the exhibition must have regretted that they could not go abroad to borrow the rest of the series of pastels that Degas exhibited in 1886, because, not only would this have demonstrated his tireless pursuit of a theme, it would have pulled the exhibition together.

They might too have been frustrated in that they only have four Seurats. Fortunately one of them, *Study of a Standing Nude Facing Left*, shines forth with an ironically missionary zeal. Several years earlier than the two famous studies for *La Grande Jatte*, it possesses greater ambiguity. The full body is teasingly suggested; the actual process of conjuring up her figure is sensual.

A very different exhibition underlines the shift in aesthetic priorities over the last few hundred years — Roger de Grey at The New Art Centre (until Saturday). The first President of the Royal Academy dominated the British art world in the second half of the eighteenth century. He was the leading figure in an organization that contained all the country's major artists. Everything he did was new. The present President, Roger de Grey, currently has a small, unassuming show of peaceful compositions in reduced colours. His work represents an important undercurrent in British art and reflects his achievements as head of one of the most effective institutions at publicizing the arts. De Grey is battling quietly but steadily to reinstate the Academy as the mouthpiece for professional painters and mainstream art.

Alistair Hicks

FOOL AROUND!
Wife begins at Forty
AMBASSADORS THEATRE 01-836 6111

"The jokes are stunning. Martin Amis has written a book that should rank with *Lolita*"

MONEY
MARTIN AMIS

Concert
Sweetly enigmaticPhilharmonia/
Davis
Festival Hall

Violinists invariably seem to warm to the playing of Oscar Shumsky, so much so that his reputation is now as one of the great men of his instrument. As far as his positive projection and the sweetness of his sound are concerned, that assessment is fair. Nevertheless his performance of Elgar's Violin Concerto with Andrew Davis and the Philharmonia Orchestra on Sunday night was something of an enigma.

Partly it was a matter of technique. Shumsky's can be as sharp as anyone's, and certainly was, for example, at the beginning of the third movement, where every note of the fast arpeggios was hit dead in the centre. Elsewhere, though, things were not quite so perfect, and more seriously there were times when Shumsky seemed to lose the thread

of his overall, undeniably personal vision of the piece. This perfunctory air manifested itself in subtle details like the pacing of a rubato or the flavour of a portamento, both of which often suggested a theatrical outlook rather than a personal one.

Despite the occasional slightly bemused reaction to one or other of Shumsky's whims, the Philharmonia produced yet another full-blooded performance under Davis. The most substantial piece in the first half of this all-Elgar programme was the overture *Frisch*, offering a fine opportunity, gladly taken, for the orchestra to flex its muscles.

These came two vignettes, *Sospiri* and *Chanson de matin*. And then the second *Wand of Youth Suite*, where verbal encouragement to applaud between movements was needed from Davis in order to prise the audience from the grip of British Summer Time somnolence.

Stephen Pettiitt

Theatre
Gothic humoursMcGroddy and
Ludmilla
Tron, Glasgow

With nice timing, the first night of Alastair Gray's new play coincided with the relaunch of his novel *The Fall of Kelvin Walker*. Where the novel follows the fortunes of a blum Scot, Kelvin Walker, as he scales the heights of the BBC by unconventional routes, the play tells the tale of his compatriot Mungo McGroddy, as he makes his presence felt in the corridors of political power.

Bunglings in Whitehall are clearly not altogether unfamiliar comic territory — this time, though, we visit them in the company of Gray's Gothic sense of humour. What emerges is a thinly-stretched, bit-and-miss, but often very funny scud-up of political farce hung around the wildly improbable fantasy of the underdog making a very good

thing indeed for himself. McGroddy is a junior clerk with a nascent and other unpossessing qualities, who strikes his seniors as being unintelligent enough to be entrusted with the task of stealing a secret report — a document implicating every imaginable member of the Great and the Good with the exception of the unusually boring. Once in possession of it, McGroddy realizes that some have deviousness thrust upon them and proceeds to blackmail the Minister into making his spoils daughter Ludmilla (played with horsey zeal by Julia St John) accessible property.

Originally intended for radio, the play shifts rapidly through very brief scenes, sketching in characters who converse in ministerspeak and wonderfully muddled clichés. It is a limiting format, though Michael Boyd's production works hard at making a virtue of it, beginning with Peter Ling's set — an appropriately garish, immense revolving crown, with flat doors that make giddy visual force out of the short scenes. The cast play the larger-than-life characters with tremendous relish, from Kevin McMonagle's Mungo to Sandy Neilson's dithering Minister.

Sarah Hemming

Collectors' Guide

English Watercolours
Collecting Papier Maché
Collectors' Books
Porcelain Discoveries
at Worcester

APRIL ISSUE OUT NOW!

'GENUINELY
FUNNY

"AN UP-MARKET-HERITAGE VERSION
OF NO SEX PLEASE, WE'RE BRITISH."

IT REALLY IS
VERY FUNNY

**'HILARIOUSLY
OVER THE TOP'**

**'FILLS THE THEATRE
WITH THE SOUND OF
LAUGHTER'**

**'A FURIOUSLY PACED COMEDY, FUNNY LINES
AND FRENETIC PERFORMANCES...
MARVELLOUS'**

**'A REMARKABLE PIECE
OF MUSIC THEATRE...
A MASTERPIECE'**

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

DENIS LAWSON JAN FRANCIS
RONALD HOLGATE JOHN BARRON

**LEND ME
A TENOR**

A comedy
by KEN LUDWIG
Directed by DAVID GILMORE

**GLOBE
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FIRST CALL
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Royal palace that became a tourist trap

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Amid the mock Tudor of the wealthier south London suburbs, the genuine Tudor of Hampton Court Palace draws thousands of tourists to one of England's most graceful royal relics.

Associations with royalty begin with Edward, the Black Prince, who lived nearby, and continue to the present Queen. Although managed for the tourist trade by the Department of the Environment, Hampton Court is still a royal palace, rich in historic and literary associations. Henry VIII walked there with some of his wives and Charles II probably with many of his spies.

Harris, one of Jerome K. Jerome's Three Men in A Boat, became hopelessly and comically lost in its maze. Last year, the reception that marked the bicentenary of *The Times* was held there.

The palace might never have been a royal residence had not Cardinal Wolsey,

seizing his impending downfall, made a gift of it to Henry VIII. But his generosity was not enough to save him, and Wolsey was executed on Henry's orders five years later.

The palace, with more than 1,000 rooms and an unusually large number of bathrooms, has been in royal hands ever since — apart from the time when Cromwell lived there.

It was William of Orange who commissioned Sir Christopher Wren to "beautify and add some new building to that fabric".

Wren's response was to design the Hamptons yet highly disciplined wing, including the Cartoon Gallery built to house Raphael cartoons bought by Charles I, that suffered all of the damage in yesterday's fire.

The cartoons were moved to the Victoria and Albert Museum more than 100 years ago, and the tapestry copies which usually hang in the gallery have been moved for cleaning.

Widow killed in fire at Hampton Court

Continued from page 1
three hours before it was detected, by which time it was well established. At the height of the blaze a huge pall of smoke could be seen two miles away.

Firemen had contingency plans for tackling a fire at the palace, as for all state and government buildings, along with alarm systems and ground plans.

The palace is fitted with fire alarms, which went off at 5.30am, and there is fire-fighting equipment for use in "small incidents". But no sprinkler system was installed in case it went off accidentally and damaged furnishings and paintings.

Tight security on the gallery and state rooms meant that firemen had to smash their way in through barred and reinforced doors.

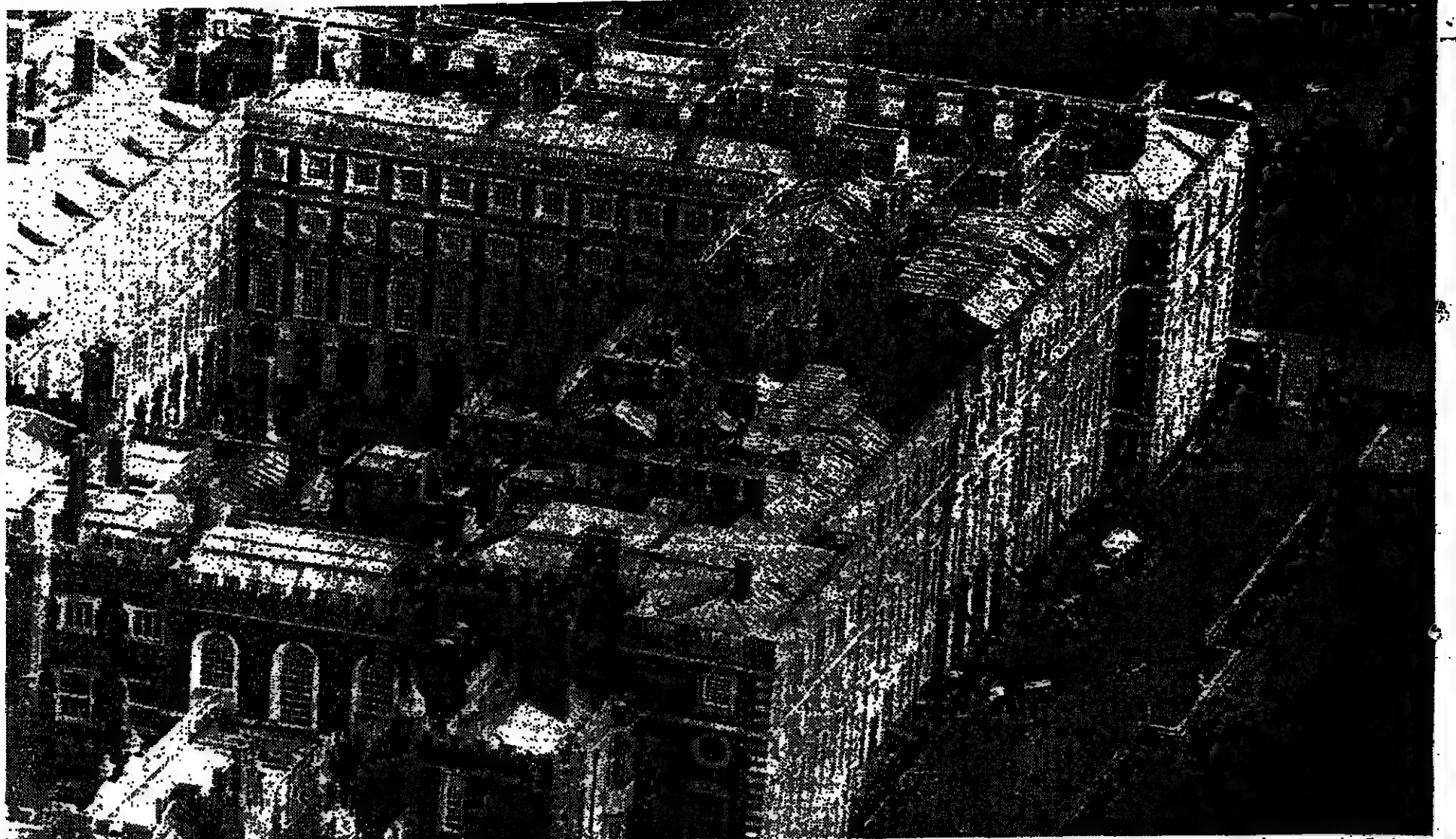
Mr Snary said: "Condi-

tions were extremely hazardous and difficult, but risks were taken. Firefighters were taking out everything that could which was portable.

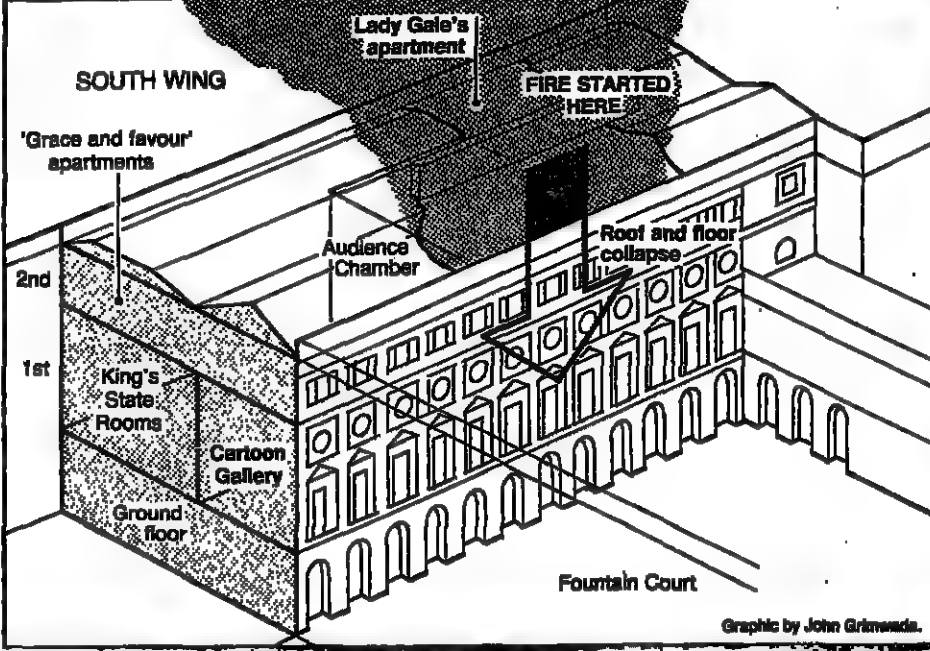
"Every room we entered was like going into a maze. The smoke was appalling thick because of the enormous amount of timber, debris falling all the time, and we couldn't hear or see anything much while the fire was burning."

Mr Graham Cowell, son of a Hampton Court staff superintendent, said: "My father and I were among the first people there. The smoke was really thick; it was choking our lungs."

He was about to run into a room to help the salvage work and search for anyone left inside when a fireman pointed up at the roof and gestured to back off. Seconds later the roof fell in.



The gaping hole in the roof of the south wing of Hampton Court Palace after the blaze; and below, the Queen and Princess Margaret inspect the damage.



THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duke of Edinburgh reopens the Guildhall after its refurbishment, Windsor, Berkshire, 12.
The Prince and Princess of Wales open Terminal 4 and the new underground between Heathrow Airport, 11; and later attend a dinner dance given by the Austrian Ambassador and Mrs Thomas at the Austrian Embassy, 18 Belgrave Sq, SW1, 8.

New exhibitions
Caribbean Eye, history and

people of the Caribbean from pre-European times, Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High St, W8, Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5 (permanent).
Silkscreens by Brian Grimwood: The Garden Gallery, Monmouth Rd, SE14, Tue to Sat 10.30 to 4.30, Sun 1 to 4 (ends April 20).

Drawings and paintings by Ludwig Paul Bauer and William Finck: Tushbridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends April 14).

M65 Country, photographic study of the motorway in Lancashire, Mid-Pennine Arts Association, 2 Hamerton St,

Barnley, Mon to Fri 9 to 5 (ends April 25).

Paintings by Susan Fung-Lin Ho: Eric North Room, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, Tue to Sat, 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4 (ends April 30 1986).

Last chance to see Watercolours and drawings depicting the Borough of Greenwich from 1760s by Howard Silverman: Woodlands Art Gallery, 90 Mycenae Rd, SE13, 10 to 7.30.

Shipwreck — the story of two survivors from the SS Ludwika: Hill torpedoed during Second World War, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Rd, SE1, 10 to 5.

Top Films

The top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Out of Africa
2 (2) Chariots of Fire
3 (3) Jagged Edge
4 (4) White Nights
5 (5) Run
6 (6) Young Sherlock Holmes
7 (7) Back to the Future
8 (8) Return of the Living Dead
9 (9) Barbed
10 (10) A Chorus Line
The top films in the provinces:
1 (1) Out of Africa
2 (2) Commando
3 (3) Young Sherlock Holmes
4 (4) A Chorus Line
Supplied by Screen International

Best wine

In a blind tasting of 19 wines from the Côtes du Beau, an expert panel judged one wine outstanding: Cuvée Napoleon 1983, Les Vignerons Réunis des Côtes du Beau, Saffrey stores and branches of Arthur Rackham, 63.25.
Source: *Decanter*, March 1986.

Anniversaries

Births: William Harvey, physician and discoverer of the circulation of the blood, Folkestone, 1578; Otto von Bismarck, first Chancellor of the German empire 1871-90, Schönhausen, 1815; Sir Truby King, pioneer of mothercraft, New Plymouth, New Zealand, 1858; Ferruccio Busoni, musician, Empoli, Italy, 1866.
Deaths: Ferenc Molnár, playwright, New York, 1952; Max Ernst, painter and sculptor, Paris, 1976.
The Royal Air Force was formed, 1918.

Roads

London and the South East: A201, Southdown Lane, Lower Sydenham, closed for repairs at railway bridge, diversions via Clarendon and Beckenham. A41: Contrailway at Edgware Way between A1 Barnet Way and Broadlands Ave, A15, Contrailway between Rush Green and Hally Interchanges, Huddersfield by-pass.
The Midlands: M6 Lane closures on both carriageways between junction 3 (A456 Birmingham W and Huddersfield) and junction 4 (A42 Coventry) and 4 (A42 Birmingham E, A6: Temporary traffic lights between junction 10 of the M6 at Weston under Lizard.

Wales and the West: A58: Huddersfield Lane closures N of Ashburton to Plymouth Rd at Ashburton Lane, A475: Lane closures due to roadworks between junction 10 of the M6 at Weston under Lizard and junction 11 of the M6 at Weston under Lizard.
The North: M1: Laneshaire repairs between junction 51 and 52, lane closures and single line traffic, M16: Major widening scheme between junction 1 and 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Information supplied by the AA

Boost for music

The Arts Council, to help increase support for small-scale music, is offering project awards for groups of up to 10 musicians performing early, classical, contemporary music or jazz. Suitable projects might include the development of new or unusual repertoire with plans for its performance and marketing, and might take the form of a short sabbatical period.

Details from Kate Jones, Assistant Secretary, Music, Arts Council, 100 Piccadilly, London W1V 6JH. Telephone: 01-479 9600/1/2/3/4. The closing date is May 8.

Weather forecast

An unstable W to NW airstream covers most of Britain, while a small depression to the N of Ireland is expected to swing eastwards across Scotland during the day.

6 am to midnight.

London, SE, central S, E England, East Angles, Midlands (E): Sunny start, scattered showers developing in afternoon; wind moderate; max temp 10C (50F).
Wales, SE, central S, NE England, Borders: Sunny start, showers soon developing, some heavy, snow in places; wind moderate; max temp 9C (48F).
Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Sunny intervals and showers; wind SW light veering NW moderate; max temp 9C (48F).
District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Rather cloudy with showers, some heavy and prolonged, snow in places; wind variable light becoming NW moderate; max temp 7C (45F).
Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands: Sunny periods, isolated showers, wind variable light; max temp 7C (45F).
Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, snow on hills; wind N or NW moderate, occasionally fresh; max temp 7C (45F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Scattered showers and sunny intervals in all districts tomorrow. Showers dying out in N and W on Thursday. Rather cold with night frost.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind W or SW force 5 to 7; showers, visibility good; sea rough. St George's Channel: Wind W or SW force 6 to 7; showers, visibility good; sea rough. Irish Sea: Wind S or SW force 6 to 7; showers, visibility good; sea rough.

Lighting-up time

London 6.00 pm to 6.05 am
Bristol 6.10 pm to 6.14 am
Birmingham 6.20 pm to 6.24 am
Manchester 6.24 pm to 6.28 am
Preston 6.24 pm to 6.28 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud; F, fair; S, sun; B, sun, sun.

London: 15.1, 14.1, 13.1, 12.1, 11.1, 10.1, 9.1, 8.1, 7.1, 6.1, 5.1, 4.1, 3.1, 2.1, 1.1, 0.1, -0.1, -1.1, -2.1, -3.1, -4.1, -5.1, -6.1, -7.1, -8.1, -9.1, -10.1, -11.1, -12.1, -13.1, -14.1, -15.1, -16.1, -17.1, -18.1, -19.1, -20.1, -21.1, -22.1, -23.1, -24.1, -25.1, -26.1, -27.1, -28.1, -29.1, -30.1.

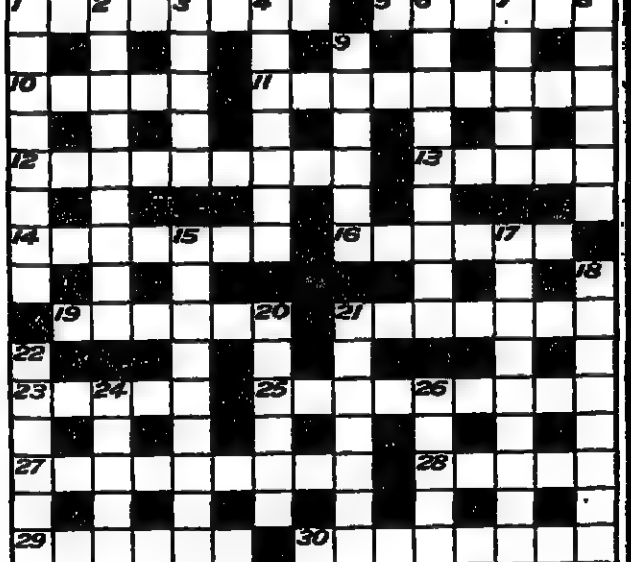
Highest and lowest

Yesterday's highest day temp: Newcastle and Poole 11C (52F); lowest day temp: Avonmouth 5C (41F); highest rainfall: 0.7in; highest sunshine: Wick 10.7h.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,008

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 39 per cent of the competitors in this year's Glasgow regional final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship.



ACROSS

- Obtain cash for dress (3,5).
- For tots a divine mouthful (4,2).
- I had a little house in the Rockies (5).
- Clerical worker conveys hush-hush material by a landline (9).
- Crude (not as supplied by OPEC) (9).
- Joint in which top churchmen may be seen (5).
- There's no clear evidence of anything being taken thins (2,5).
- Clears an empty space at Stithfield (6).
- Sign as member of famous family (6).
- Aims set out by French artist (7).
- Refuse the old king a pound (5).
- Mickey-taker from Cornish village? (9).
- Make good list of records from Winnie's house (9).
- Guide for viewer going round square (5).
- They can be heard howling from Australian mounts (6).
- Treated to a coat when all's said and done, maybe (8).

DOWN

- Kind of football field that made a martyr of Lawrence (8).
- Funkley has to take notice — the consumer's coming (4,5).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Worker leaves animal to bolt

Gray's prospect of Eton was so remote (7).
Fancy yacht, perhaps, becoming an object of infatuation (5,4).
Tony's sale-room is lively (5).
Wages plot in hospital? (3,3).
Moulding Canadian province would need Avon's previous backing (6).
Cover-up lost her new order (9).
Turns up record bowling spells (9).
Gave in when put on ice (8).
Stranger able to hold his drink (6).
Soppy girl left in college, I hear (7).
Russian capital supplies second boat (6).
Basket liable to give way (5).
See a distressed daughter comforted (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,007

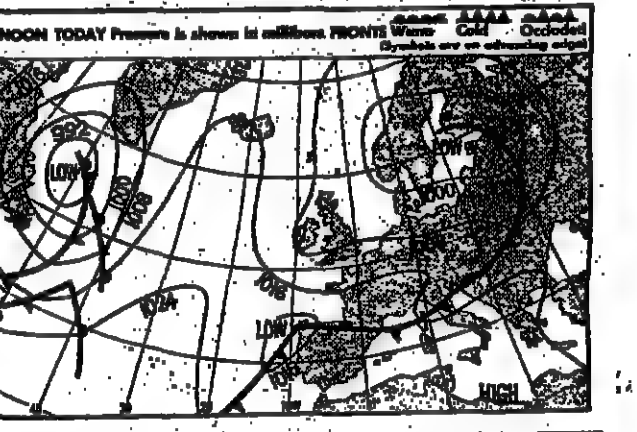
ACROSS
1. CASH
2. TOTS
3. HOUSE
4. HUSH
5. CRUDE
6. JOINT
7. EVIDENCE
8. CLEAR
9. SIGN
10. AIMS
11. REFUSE
12. MICKEY
13. GUIDE
14. HOWLING
15. TREATED
DOWN
1. KIND
2. FUNKLEY

The pound

The daily dividend will be announced each day and the weekly dividend will be announced each Saturday in *The Times*.
The Times Portfolio is a free, published weekly. It is a collection of public companies whose shares are listed on the Stock Exchange and quoted in the *Financial Times*. The companies are chosen to represent the main sectors of the economy and to provide a diversified portfolio of shares. The portfolio is managed by a team of experts who select the companies to include in the portfolio. The portfolio is published weekly and is available to all subscribers to *The Times*.
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Portfolio

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High Tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Aberdeen	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Avonmouth	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Belfast	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Bristol	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Cardiff	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Dover	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Edinburgh	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Falmouth	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Glasgow	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Harwich	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Hull	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Leith	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Liverpool	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
London	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Manchester	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Newcastle	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Nottingham	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Orkney	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Shetland	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Southampton	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Stirling	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Swansea	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Torquay	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Warrington	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Wexford	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Wolverhampton	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Worcester	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Wrexham	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8
Yarmouth	6.51	8.8	7.34	8.8

Around Britain

EAST COAST	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Birmingham	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Manchester	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Cardiff	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Belfast	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Edinburgh	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Glasgow	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Harwich	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Hull	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Leith	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Liverpool	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
London	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Manchester	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Newcastle	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Nottingham	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Orkney	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Shetland	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Southampton	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Stirling	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Swansea	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Torquay	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Warrington	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Wexford	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Wolverhampton	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Worcester	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Wrexham	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37
Yarmouth	1.8	2.1	7.45	Dull	Shower	5.1	37

Abroad

Algeria	C	F	Algeria	C	F	Algeria	C	F
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63
Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63	Algeria	17.63	17.63

مكتبة

US NOTEBOOK

Economic growth consensus in doubt

The rise of 0.7 per cent in the index of leading indicators in February has given new heart to the optimistic "consensus" economists who have now swung back to their forecast of 4 per cent real gross national product growth in 1986 and a consequent end to the recent rise in bond prices.

The index of leading indicators in 1985 rose sharply from last year's 166 in January to 174 in December. Yet this was a year of sub-standard economic performance.

Real GNP rose by 2.2 per cent during the year and by 0.7 per cent in the fourth quarter which, according to consensus thinking, should have represented the climax of a strong second half. Nothing of the sort occurred.

The index of leading indicators showed a revised no change in January, 1986, compared with the initial report of a 0.6 per cent decline. Now we have the 0.7 per cent increase.

We already know a great deal about what happened in February. There was widespread evidence of deflation including:

- A fall of 0.4 per cent in consumer prices
- May crude oil futures reached their lowest point for years - \$11.44 a barrel
- Durable goods orders fell by 0.5 per cent to a level little different from the revised December level

- Retail sales slipped by 0.1 per cent after a revised fall of 0.2 per cent in January

- Industrial production fell by 1.6 per cent after a fall of 0.7 per cent in January

- And, while much has been made of the fall in the trade deficit in February to \$12.5 billion from a revised \$14.4 billion in January, the combined January-February trade deficit was 39 per cent greater than the comparable 1985 figure.

For these reasons I am much less sanguine than the consensus about the growth prospects for the US economy in 1986.

Recent data from the St Louis Fed confirms the impression of a substantial slowdown in the rate of growth of money.

Even if the consensus forecast of a surge of growth were to materialize, there is no reason to believe that the decline in interest rates would cease.

Mr Albert Cox, senior economic adviser to Bill Management and former chief economist at Merrill Lynch, pointed out last week: "Despite the big drops recorded since 1981, interest rates will have a lot of catching up to do. They do, that is, if the historical spread between interest rates and inflation (about three percentage points) is going to be restored. In view of the durability of that relationship over hundreds of years worldwide, there is every reason to believe that the old spread will prevail."

"Of course, interest rates have been moving closer to inflation over several years. But if inflation for the rest of the 80s settles down to something around 1 or 2 per cent or even 3 per cent, prime interest rates should average 4 to 6 per cent, well below where they are today."

Such rate levels might not be seen this year, but it is likely that there will be further progress in that direction.

Maxwell Newton

Oil fall likely to lift world economy 'substantially'

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The world economy is likely to receive a substantial boost from the 60 per cent slide in oil prices since late last year, according to research by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The Paris-based organization is carrying out a series of simulations on the impact of lower oil prices, to be published in June.

Economists at the OECD believe that its earlier conclusions about oil price effects on the world economy still hold. These are that, other things being equal, every 10 per cent fall in the world oil price pushes up gross national product in the industrialized countries by 0.25 per cent, after about one year, and pushes down the general level of prices in the industrialized countries by 0.75 per cent.

On this basis, OECD gross national product would be pushed up by 1.5 per cent, and prices reduced by 4.5 per cent by the oil price fall.

However, the speed of the oil price fall and the fact that other things have not been equal can change these effects considerably. The main change has been the performance of the dollar which has been following the oil price down.

A falling dollar means that, in local currency terms, the effective fall in oil prices is even more pronounced than the drop in world prices. The

'\$5 a barrel' warning

Abu Dhabi (AP-Dow Jones) - The United Arab Emirates oil minister, Dr Mana Saeed al Otaiba, gave a warning yesterday that oil prices would drop to \$5 a barrel in the absence of cooperation among oil producers.

Dr Otaiba said that the April 15 Opec conference in Geneva should be postponed unless advance contacts among all oil producers guarantee it would be successful in stabilizing the world oil market.

dollar has fallen by 25 per cent on average since last autumn, converting a 60 per cent fall in the dollar price to a 70 per cent decline in local currency terms, for countries other than the United States.

Britain has not benefited much from this, the pound's value against the dollar is only slightly above its level before oil prices began to tumble. But the other EEC countries, and

Japan, are the main beneficiaries.

Some countries have introduced higher oil taxes in recent months. But final consumers still receive the bulk of the oil price drop. Similarly, by the time oil prices started to fall, annual wage negotiations in some OECD countries were nearly complete.

However, as long as this implies a delay, rather than complete loss of the inflationary benefits of lower oil prices, this is not a serious problem.

But there could be serious consequences if the oil price was to fall much further. The OECD, in its December Economic Outlook, listed four:

These were the risk to the banking system if energy-related loans become less viable; deterioration in the position of heavily indebted oil producers; disruption to energy production in industrialized countries as production becomes unprofitable; and the widespread cancellation of energy investment.

Tax cut hopes 'too optimistic'

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor will not be able to reduce the basic rate of income tax to 25p in the pound before the next General Election, DRI Europe, the economic forecaster, says in a report published today.

The report says hopes for a 25p basic rate, revealed in the Budget speech a fortnight ago, are based on over-optimistic economic assumptions.

DRI says the Treasury expects a 9.4 per cent increase on income from the spending taxes such as VAT and excise duties.

This is based on strong growth in consumers' expenditure - up 4 per cent in real terms - and a further shift in spending towards taxed items. Without such a shift, growth in expenditure tax receipts would be just 7.75 per cent.

DRI takes issue with the

Treasury both on the strength of projected spending and the likelihood of further big shifts in spending patterns. The result is that the expenditure taxes could be £4 billion less than the Chancellor assumes.

After allowing for other receipts, on which DRI is slightly more optimistic than the Treasury, the net effect is to leave Mr Lawson £2 billion short of tax revenues in 1986-87. This is the amount set aside for tax cuts in the Budget in a year's time.

The forecasters think that the £4.5 billion reserve will be sufficient to allow the Government to stay within its public spending target for 1986-87, but that the target will be exceeded in 1987-88.

The net result of the DRI projections is that the Chancellor will be able to cut taxes substantially only if he allows borrowing to rise above the targets contained in the medium-term financial strategy.

A further 1p in the pound could be cut from the basic rate of income tax in the next Budget, but only if Mr Lawson allows public sector borrowing to rise to £8 billion in 1987-88, from the currently projected £7 billion.

The last possible pre-election Budget is in March 1988. But the forecasters say that achieving the 25p in the pound income tax pledge in that Budget would be possible only through another big acceleration of the privatization programme.

The DRI forecasts that unemployment will fall below 3 million next year and to around 2.9 million in 1988.

Pensions bonus for Lawson

By Our Economics Editor

The Chancellor stands to gain four times as much revenue as his forecast suggests from the reduction in pension fund surpluses, according to post-Budget calculations by the London Business School.

These suggest that the extra tax paid in 1987-88 will be as much as £510 million, compared with Treasury forecasts of £124 million, and that this will rise to £1.5 billion in 1989-90.

At the same time the LBS calculates that the reduction in surpluses required by the Chancellor will cut employers' costs by the equivalent of a full percentage point of national insurance by the end of the decade.

Mr Nigel Lawson announced in the Budget that all pension funds would be obliged to eliminate any surplus above 5 per cent, either by cutting contributions, improving benefits or direct refunds.

The LBS believes that most will pursue the first option, which will result in more tax being paid by employers and employees as the contributions they deduct from taxable income are reduced.

The LBS calculates that pension funds' surpluses amount to about £50 billion. In its post-Budget forecast, the LBS raises slightly its growth projection for this year. Although its estimate of 2.6 per cent is still below the Chancellor's, it points out that it is more optimistic about 1987 in its forecast that growth will accelerate to 3.2 per cent.

Japan surplus at £2.6bn

Tokyo, (AP-Dow Jones) - Japan posted an unadjusted current account surplus of \$3,941 million (about £2.6 billion) in February, compared with a \$2,539 million surplus a year earlier, the finance ministry announced yesterday.

The surplus followed a \$1,878 million surplus in January and a record \$6,805 million surplus in December. There was a \$1,299 million deficit in the country's overall balance of payments. This followed a \$5,152 million deficit in the previous month.

THURSDAY - Interim: Acorn Computer Group, Burton Group, Druck Holdings, Merivale Moore, Finales: Ealing Electro-Optics, Empire Stores (Bradford), Istock Johnson, Wm Morrison Supermarkets, Reckitt & Colman, Wayne Kerr, Weir Group.

FRIDAY - Interim: Save & Prosper Sterling Deposit Fund, Finales: Britannia Arrow Holdings, Chepstow Racecourse, International Investment Trust Co of Jersey (dividend), North British Canadian Investment Company, E T Sutherland and Son.

Offer for Imps may stay open

By Judith Huntley

The bitter and acrimonious battle for control of Imperial Group takes a step forward today as Hanson Trust's £2.5 billion offer is due to close.

The City is expecting Lord Hanson to extend his offer to coincide with that of the rival bidder, United Biscuits, whose final closing date is April 11. Hanson Trust could allow its bid to run until April 29.

Meanwhile, the advertising war between Hanson and United is being maintained in the newspapers. Hanson Trust told Imperial shareholders over the Easter weekend that its best and final offer was worth 26.6p a share more than that of its rival. The difference in the value of the offers will be determined by the market in the next week or two.

Hanson's share and convertible offer is worth 36.9p a share against United Biscuits' 34.2p bid, which is backed by the Imperial board. Imperial's last price was 34.4p.

Hanson has just under 30 per cent of Imperial with United Biscuits having a 23 per cent stake. UB is expected to send a circular to Imperial shareholders this week, emphasizing the commercial prospects for a united Imp-UB company after last week's clearance of its bid from the Office of Fair Trading.

Guinness Peat in talks

By Our City Staff

Guinness Peat, the merchant bank, has confirmed that it has been talking to Henderson, Crosthwaite, the medium sized stockbroker, but says it is in no hurry to buy such a business.

Mr Alastair Morton, the chief executive of Guinness Peat, said last night: "We have had talks with Henderson Crosthwaite and we are looking for smaller acquisitions with private clients' funds. But we are not in a hurry to spend our profits."

from the Britannia Arrow sale. Why buy for cash at the top of the market?

Speculation about an acquisition by Guinness Peat has been heightened by the £18 million profit it made after its abortive bid for Britannia Arrow, the £280 million financial services group.

Guinness Peat sold its 25 per cent stake in Britannia to Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, and MIM, the investment group headed by Mr David Stevens.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interim: Manco (third quarter), Finales: Arcoelectric (Holdings), Atlantic Computers, Brammer, OCA Galleries, Emess Lighting, Fitch & Company Design Consultants, Laurence Gould and Company, Kleinwort, Benson Gift Fund, Kleinwort, Benson Sterling Asset Fund, Stanley Miller Holdings, Molins (amended), Rotaflex, Slough Estates.

TOMORROW - Interim: A Beckman, Britannia Security Group, Floyd Oil Participations, Portland Holdings, TR City of London Trust, Finales: Abbey Life Group, Alexandra Workwear, AMEC, Associated British Ports Holdings, BSG International, Bunzl, Caparo Properties, Christies International, Coates Brothers, Elve (Wimbledon) Enterprises Oil, Executex Clothes, Guardian Royal Exchange, William Jacks, Liquebar Ju-

lius Beer US Dollar Fund, London and Manchester Group, Lyle Shipping, M Y Dart, Ocean Transport and Trading, Silkstone Lubricants, Scottish Heritable Trust, A G Stanley, Sun Alliance and London Insurance, Sun Life Assurance Society.

THURSDAY - Interim: Acorn Computer Group, Burton Group, Druck Holdings, Merivale Moore, Finales: Ealing Electro-Optics, Empire Stores (Bradford), Istock Johnson, Wm Morrison Supermarkets, Reckitt & Colman, Wayne Kerr, Weir Group.

FRIDAY - Interim: Save & Prosper Sterling Deposit Fund, Finales: Britannia Arrow Holdings, Chepstow Racecourse, International Investment Trust Co of Jersey (dividend), North British Canadian Investment Company, E T Sutherland and Son.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Time to close the currency debate

On almost every issue that comes before the Cabinet, the Prime Minister has had the backing of her Chancellor; the nature of the annual spending battle, indeed, is that the two of them naturally tend to find themselves in rather lonely agreement. This is why the internal debate in Government on the European Monetary System - which by all accounts became quite heated - is of peculiar interest. For the Chancellor's conversion has meant that the Prime Minister might be the sole pillar of resistance if the EMS were to be the subject of a full Cabinet debate.

Not that the Cabinet, as a whole, is made up of ardent supporters of full membership of the fixed exchange-rate mechanism of the EMS. Nor, however, is it stiff with dedicated opponents of this particular manifestation of the European Community's erratic progress towards integration. And the confusion over Britain's domestic monetary targets has certainly strengthened the political appetite for the relative simplicity of an external discipline.

It is time the issue was settled for the duration of this Parliament. The ability of the foreign exchange markets to drum up an EMS entry scare on the slightest pretext adds an unnecessary complication to the business of managing sterling in line with the Government's counter-inflationary strategy.

What seems to have happened in the EMS debate is that the long-term case for entry has been conceded. This is an important step, for even though the Thatcher Government was theoretically committed to eventual membership from the very beginning, it was philosophically opposed to entry for some years. This tentative conversion to the principle of membership only partly depends on the history of the EMS itself: while the system has plainly held together better - and with fewer realignments of currencies - than appeared likely on its birthday in early 1979, it has brought about less economic convergence than was originally hoped. The deciding factor for Britain seems to have been the experience of life outside the EMS: first, as a country in danger of slipping into the second rank of a larger and more disparate European Community, but secondly and more importantly as an economy that has experienced much higher real interest rates than was hoped.

This grossly over-simplifies the reasons why conversion to the idea of joining the EMS has permeated the Bank of England and the Treasury. There are those who think it would protect the exchange rate against the threat of a Labour government; and there are those who think it would offer more immediate protection against changes of policy by the present Chancellor. And there are, of course, those who still believe its advantages to be illusory; who reckon

that all a fixed exchange rate does is to close up a safety valve, diverting economic pressures into more dangerous channels.

However, there has emerged something approaching a consensus that while membership of the EMS might well mean even greater volatility of interest rates, it might also permit the average level of interest rates to be lower.

Then, however, we come to the critical question of timing. The go-now school has two fears: first, that the Government may miss quite an agreeable pattern of exchange rates, in which the pound is low enough against the mark to allow British industry to compete, but not so low that a fixed exchange rate would exert no counter-inflationary discipline. More subtly, there are those who fear that Britain may also miss the opportunity to negotiate with agreeable partners; in particular, a President of the Bundesbank ready to take up the additional burden of stabilizing the pound.

The wait-and-see school, however, fears the difficulty of an election campaign during the learning period of full membership. The EMS, it is argued, would create a bias against the election of a responsible government. For the more likely it appeared that such a government might not be elected, the more the exchange rate would weaken; the more such a government would then be obliged to raise interest rates to keep the pound within EMS limits; and the more this would hamper its own chances of securing victory.

This is the kind of logic the foreign exchange markets have shown themselves able to confound with ease. And it must be pointed out that the period to which this particular danger applies is really quite short. More than a few months before the election, a falling exchange rate would oblige the Government to raise interest rates willy-nilly, for fear of imperilling its counter-inflation strategy; while a run on the pound only a matter of days before the election could easily be contained by co-ordinated intervention (and effectively blamed on the Opposition). But there is no doubt that the EMS would provide a straitjacket, and that this could constrain the Government's freedom during an election campaign.

This weighs strongly with the Prime Minister. It is not, however, an objection that is going to fade as the election approaches; so it makes little sense to pretend to be waiting for time to ripen, if this is now the overwhelming objection. The moment has therefore come to say whether she has ruled out membership before a new Parliament, and how the decision would be taken thereafter.

Sarah Hogg
Economics EditorONLY TAP
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Arbitrageurs poised for big bang

By Carol Ferguson

There is a lot of mystique surrounding the activities of arbitrageurs. They have some big counters to play with on the international Monopoly board and few mergers take place without attracting their attention.

Not all are private individuals - many big securities houses have their arbitrage departments. But what all successful arbitrageurs have in common is that they are shrewd and astute operators who can have an important influence on the bidding process. It is now impossible to do a deal in the US without recognizing their role.

Mr Ivan Boesky, one of the best known of the arbitrageurs, defines risk arbitrage in his newly book *Merger Mania*. It is "the taking advantage of the disparity in value that exists between two different but related securities that are trading simultaneously in the same or different markets, or the disparity between the market price of a security and the cash price being offered".

Opportunities for arbitrage

can arise in a variety of ways, but the growth in arbitrage springs from the quickening pace of mergers. Through thorough analysis of industries and companies, study of the management and knowledge of the stock market, the arbitrageur attempts to identify likely bid targets early on.

He will start buying shares in such a company, and in so doing will often create a bid situation by attracting attention to an undervalued market opportunity.

As soon as a bid is announced, he will sell "short" the shares, locking in the "spread". The spread is the disparity in value between the price offered and the price of securities being bid for.

Nothing very mysterious in that, but what has struck deep into the complacency of corporate America is the power the "arbs" have to alert predators to the existence of a potential target.

Far from being a sort of seismic manipulator, deciding the fate of defenceless compa-

nies with a stroke of his millions, Mr Boesky sees himself rather as an instrument of economic Darwinism.

The work of the arbitrageurs in restructuring corporate America does not go ahead unimpeded. Anti-trust considerations often result in interference from governments.

A successful merger will often cost jobs, not just of the employees but also of the managers.

Risk arbitrage probably had its origins in the 1930s when there were two big opportunities for arbitrage. The reorganization of the US railways and the enforced divestment of subsidiaries of the public utilities both created price discrepancies in their respective shares which could be exploited by arbitrageurs.

The spate of mergers in the 1970s allowed their activities to grow and they are now believed to play a significant role in virtually every takeover.

Mr Boesky is careful to explain that he is not a corporate entrepreneur. The corporate entrepreneur will seek a particular outcome in a bid and will often take control of a company.

The arbitrageur is not interested in taking control. He does not care who wins - the only advantage he seeks is to make a profit out of the spread.

Many reasons have been given for the comparative lack of arbitrage in the British market. It is much smaller and

less liquid than the US market. But Mr Boesky sees little profit in it mainly because there are so few spreads.

Mr Boesky says there is a less rigorous system of disclosure of information in Britain than in the US. The US Securities and Exchange Commission rules penalize heavily what he calls the selective dissemination of information. Our insider dealing legislation is less stringent.

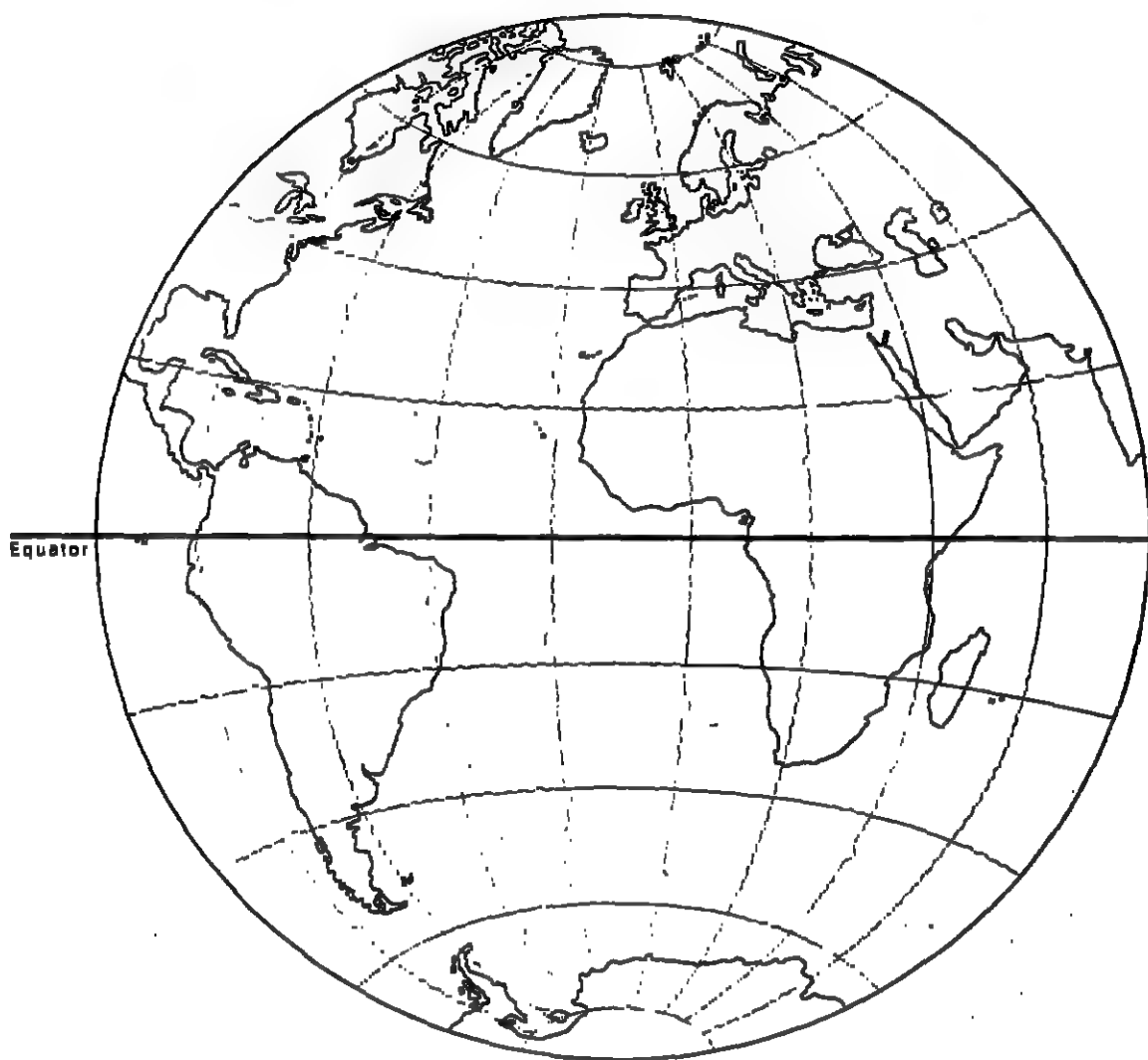
This means that while it is possible to make a profit by buying the target company shares, there is no opportunity to lock in the spread, a necessary feature of true risk arbitrage.

The pension and other fund managers also are often reluctant to sell shares which are subject to a bid. They prefer to hold on in case there is a higher offer, fulfilling some of the functions of the arbitrageur themselves.

With the arrival of big bang, all this could change. More comprehensive regulation of the City should allow spreads to develop, creating more opportunities.

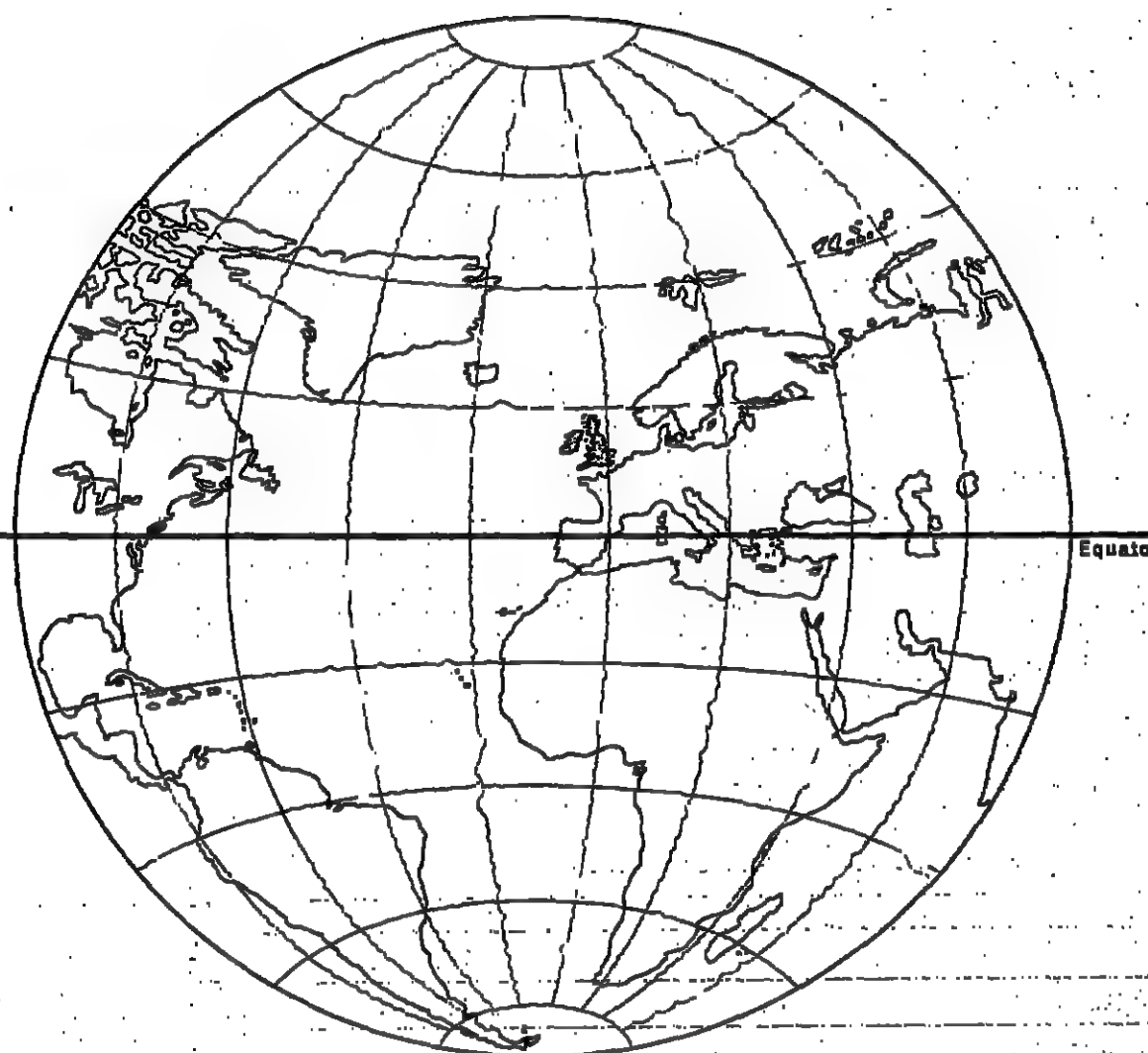
GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

The proposed shift of the earth's axis.



BEFORE THE AXIAL SHIFT

(AVERAGE ANNUAL TEMPERATURE 10 DEGREES CELSIUS)

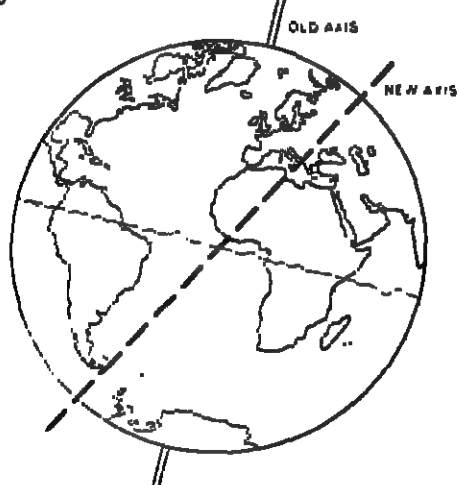


AFTER THE AXIAL SHIFT

(AVERAGE ANNUAL TEMPERATURE 25 DEGREES CELSIUS)

Following a review of national energy policy, the Government is to implement far-reaching strategic energy measures at 11.02am today.

The aim of these measures is to effect a shift in the earth's axis.



New geographical position for Britain.

The result will be that Britain will occupy a new geographical location just 10 degrees north of the equator. Manchester, for example, will enjoy the climate of Barbados.

Southern Africa will, in turn, become the new South Pole. Japan and parts of China, the new North Pole. While the polar icecaps themselves will melt to create two vast new temperate regions.

Summers in Britain will be 10 degrees warmer on average. With winter temperatures being maintained at a balmy 20 degrees celsius, there will be energy savings of an estimated £2 billion a year.

The English Channel will effectively become the Mediterranean. Northampton becomes Southampton, Somerset becomes Summerset.

Controlled electromagnetic charges.

The proposed repositioning of the earth's axis will be achieved by a series of three electromagnetic charges.

Three five hundred megaton electromagnets have been launched into the earth's orbit and are now circling the earth at a velocity of two orbits per hour.

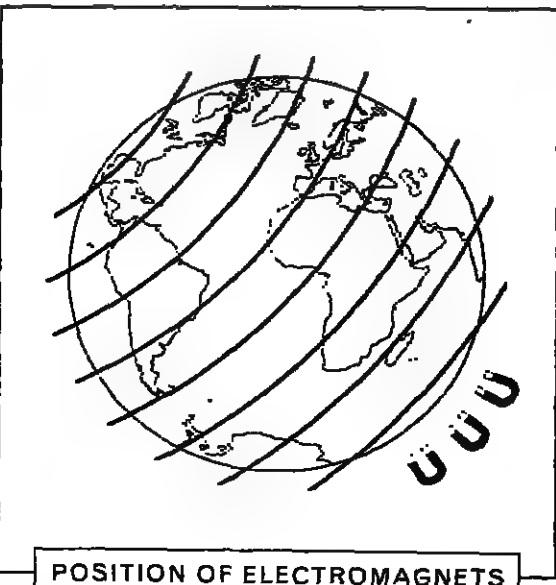
The electromagnetic charges will be activated today at 11.02, 11.14 and 11.29 Greenwich Meantime precisely.

The operation will be mounted by remote control from the Northallerton Orbital Tracking Station.

In certain areas, metallic household objects such as saucepans and breadbins may experience spasmodic displacement. Householders should remove all jewellery and keep clear of the kitchen.

On some routes, aeroplanes may be temporarily pulled off course. Holiday-makers travelling to Portugal and the South of France may have to settle for two weeks in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Motor cars may find their steering affected by the shifting magnetic field. Drivers should pull over to the hard shoulder and beware of low flying motorcycles.



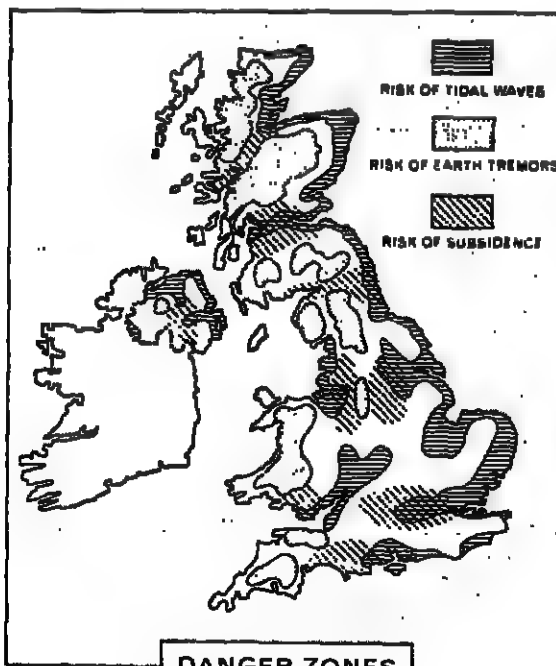
POSITION OF ELECTROMAGNETS

Tidal waves, due to the melting of the northern ice-cap, may be experienced in coastal regions. Emergency services have been placed on full alert.

Conditions for surfing, however, will be ideal.

Questions raised in the United Nations.

A rather extraordinary general meeting of the United Nations Security Council was called last night to consider implications for member states— notably Chile, or rather Chilly, and what will become the Polar Republic of China.



DANGER ZONES

British delegates pointed out that Britain was long overdue some good weather and energy savings. Anyway, why shouldn't someone else suffer for a change?

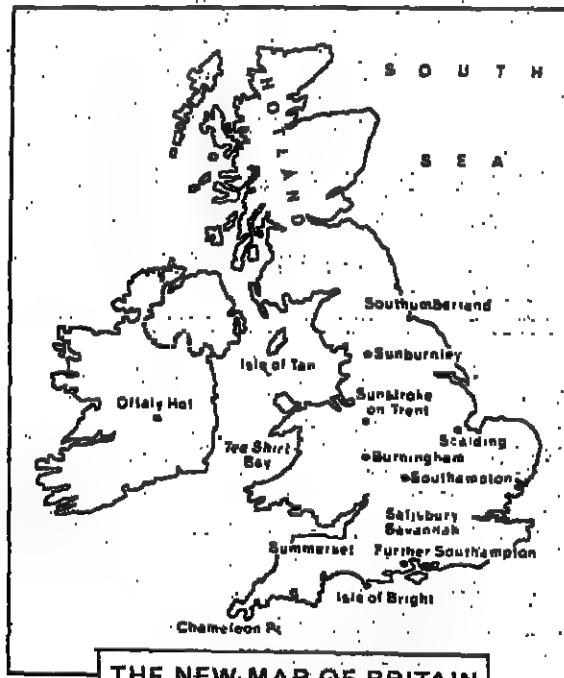
Risk of marital upheaval.

The shift, once achieved, could bring some risk of marital upheaval as the moon will henceforth be in Saturn when it should be in Mars with the result that perfectly-matched Sagittarians and Librans will become disastrously incompatible Leos and Cancers.

After the axial shift, Britain will enter a new time zone. Clocks should accord-

ingly be put back one hour 23 minutes precisely.

The indications are that persons locked in amatory embrace between 11am and 11.30am will feel the earth move.



THE NEW MAP OF BRITAIN

Wait a moment. Aren't we being just a teeny weeny bit hasty?

Surely we can make this clammy old isle of ours a more hospitable place to live without recourse to such stringent measures.

The Energy Efficiency Office has outlined an array of schemes to save our monergy and make our climate feel positively Mediterranean.

Draught proofing, pipe lagging and loft insulation to name but three.

There are free Monergy Information Packs, free advice, even free telephone calls on the special Monergy Hotline—0800 234800.

Methods admittedly less earth-shattering than shifting the earth's axis. But equally effective and, may we suggest, just a touch more practical.

April fuel.

هذه هي الأرض

In the EEC, February retail price gains totalled just 0.1 per cent, the level to which annual West German price inflation has now declined. None the less, the manifest

...growth suggests that the pace of German GNP growth is accelerating anyway because of measures in the pipeline. The World Economic Institute in Kiel has given a warning that next year could see a pick-up in

just an intuitive dislike of jollification. Real interest rates, as the sharper eyed have pointed out, show no convincing signs as yet of falling.

Healthy outlook for new issues

Isabel Unsworth

[illegible]

	£ million	1995	1994
Sales		642.4	569.4
Trading profit		41.3	41.4
Capital expenditure		43.0	35.0
Net capital employed (end of year)		289.3	267.2
Return on capital (average)		14.8%	16.8%
Number of employees (end of year)		6,750	6,300

These figures relate to the Group managed by Albright & Wilson, including companies owned directly by Tenneco.

- The 1985 results include two acquisitions, the Industrial Chemicals Group of Mobil Mining and Minerals in the USA from May 1985 and Tensia Surfact in Spain for the whole year.
- The profits from the two acquisitions were offset by the impact of exchange rates on translation of overseas results into sterling.
- UK profits were lower, because of adverse exchange rate movements which depressed margins.
- Exports from the UK rose from £115 million to £131 million, representing 40% of UK-generated sales.
- Overseas companies continued to account for most of the Group's profit, with the largest contribution coming from North America.
- Capital expenditure in the UK at £14 million was at a similar level to 1984; the overseas total increased by £8 million to £29 million, principally in Canada.

Copies of the Review of the Year may be obtained from Corporate Public Relations Department at the address given below:

ALBRIGHT & WILSON LTD International in Chemicals
1 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1X 7QD.

 Albright & Wilson is a Tenneco company

By Jeremy Warner
Business Correspondent
Conditions for black African workers employed by British companies operating in South Africa improved considerably during the 12 months to the end of June 1985, according to a report from the Department of Trade and Industry.

The numbers paid below recognized minimum levels was halved and there was evidence of increased dealings with South Africa's emerging trade unions.

There was also a growing commitment to training, education and community projects and increased provision of fringe benefits.

These are the main findings of the voluntary code of conduct, for companies with interests in South Africa published by the DTI.

Reports were received from most of companies with interests in South Africa. Only two companies, known or believed to have South African subsidiaries employing more than 20 blacks, failed to report.

MORTGAGE RATE CHANGE

**GOOD NEWS
FOR BORROWERS**

The YORKSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY is pleased to announce a reduction in the rates of interest payable on existing mortgages. The reduction will be effective from 1 April, 1986.

ANNUITY (REPAYMENT) MORTGAGES
REDUCED BY 0.75%

ENDOWMENT MORTGAGES
REDUCED BY 1.00%

When you want a better service
YORKSHIRE
 Building Society
Has the key

Head Office: Yorkshire House, Westgate, Bradford BD1 2AU. Tel: (0274) 734822.
 750 branches and agencies throughout the country.
 Member of the Building Societies Association. Member of the Building Society Investors' Protection Scheme.
 Member of the Financial Services Authority. Total assets exceed £1,750,000,000.

First National Securities
Base rate

**First National
Securities Limited
announces that
with effect from
1st April 1986
its base rate for
lending will be
12½%.**

First National Securities Ltd., First National House, College Road, Harrow,
Middlesex HA1 1FB. Telephone: 01-881 1313.

Kleinwort Benson
With effect from 1st April 1986
the Kleinwort, Benson Limited mortgage rate
will be 12.5% per annum, and the
personal loan base rate will be 11.5% per annum.

**Grieveson Grant
and Co.**
MEMBERS OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE

From Tuesday 1st April 1986
we shall be at

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London EC3P 3DB

Telephone: 01-623 8000

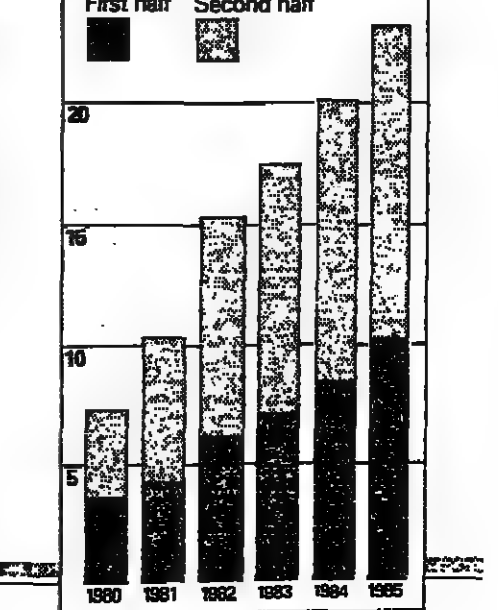
Croda 1985 results

	1985 £000	1984 £000
Unaudited		
Turnover	407,151	383,485
Profit before taxation	22,875	20,046
Profit after taxation	14,101	11,511
Extraordinary items after taxation	2,275	2,988
Attributable profit	11,689	8,293
	pence	pence
Ordinary dividends (net)		
Proposed final dividend		
(payable 1 July 1986)	4.00	4.00
Making total for the year	7.00	7.00

Croda
Croda International Plc
Cowick Hall Snaith Goolie
North Humberdale DN14 9AA
Tel 0405 860561 Telex 57608

Copies of Report and Accounts
available on and after 28 April 1988
from the Secretary

	First half	Second half
Profit before tax £m	10.0	10.0
First half	5.0	5.0
Second half	5.0	5.0



THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK

NatWest in 1985

"Facing change from a position of strength"

We are determined to maintain our position as a leading international financial services organisation. In 1985 we took significant steps to strengthen our position, and responded positively to the demands of the highly competitive and rapidly changing markets in which we operate.

Strength in the High Street

In 1985 financial institutions of all types competed aggressively for personal customer business. The strength of our customer base and branch network, together with our commitment to provide a high standard of service in all our dealings with customers, enabled us to maintain our leading position.

In December we introduced 'No Charge' banking for our five million personal customers. We are attracting a substantial number of new accounts.

We started Saturday banking in May and by the end of the year we were open for business at 190 locations. The style of Saturday banking is different from

our normal weekday operations, and the combination of the latest technology and a secure, yet friendly open plan environment will become an increasing feature throughout our branch network and not just on Saturdays.

During 1985 we added 500 automated teller machines to our network of Servicetills and Rapid Cash Tills, which we believe to be the largest independent network in the world.

The NatWest Saver Service is made up of a variety of products, each of which is targeted at a specific segment of our diverse customer base.

The Special Reserve Account was introduced in January 1985, attracting new customers as well as encouraging existing ones to save with us. In the younger savings market, our 'Piggy' accounts go from strength to strength with the millionth ceramic pig being issued in 1985.

We are the largest provider of mortgage finance amongst the UK banks, and National Westminster Home Loans saw another year of growth with new advances of over £850 million and a total mortgage book approaching £3,400 million.

Strength for Business

For the UK business community, 1985 was a year of modest economic improvement. We saw continuing growth in our lending to all sectors, which at the end of 1985 exceeded £12 billion.

The Chairman, Lord Boardman, comments:

"Excellent results were again achieved in 1985.

Wherever we operate, at home and abroad, we are strengthening relationships with our customers by adapting our business to meet their changing needs.

The world's financial markets are changing rapidly. Competition in 1985 remained strong and will intensify in 1986. Deregulation is a potent catalyst for change. Traditional barriers in the financial services sector are being dismantled, and this will have an impact both upon the personal and corporate sectors of our business. Technology is speeding the process of change through faster

We continue to support the small business sector very strongly with total lending approaching £6 billion. Our Business Development Loan Scheme continues to be popular. In 1985, 43,000 loans were agreed involving over £573 million.

Our Capital Loan Scheme helps to meet the need for venture capital, and equity finance is also available through County Bank Development Capital.

We are leaders in the growing franchise market where our lending now exceeds £29 million.

Our commitment to the agricultural sector is demonstrated by our lending which exceeds £1.3 billion.

As part of our commitment to provide a high standard of service, we are establishing over 100 Corporate Banking Centres with expert staff, providing the specialist attention and advice required by our medium and large corporate customers.

Strength in Changing World Markets

As one of the world's leading international banks, we are poised to take full advantage of changing world markets.

Our controlled and cautious stance on sovereign debt has resulted in a relatively low exposure to the major problem situations.

The hallmark of NatWest remains our ability to provide a tailor-made service to our customers and we have a relationship with most of the world's top corporate institutions. We have

a significant operating base in the USA, and in 1985 NatWest USA achieved a 34% increase in pre-tax income to reach a record US \$87.9 million.

Innovation has been the keynote of our foreign exchange and money market operations, with new financial instruments such as interest/currency rate swaps, options and future rate agreements finding favour with our customers.

Financial Highlights 1985

Pre-tax profits	£804 million
Total assets	£72,000 million
Deposits	£64,800 million
Advances	£53,500 million

The Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

communications and is also enabling us to contain costs and improve efficiency.

On the economic front, the international recovery proved more durable than many expected. 1985 was the third consecutive year of sustained growth with the United Kingdom economy enjoying faster growth than most other major developed countries.

Yet a number of problems from past years are still unresolved, particularly the high unemployment in many countries, the international debt situation and the increasing threat of protectionism. There have recently been welcome signs of international co-operation to deal with these issues but much remains to be done before more

We are proud of the reputation we have earned in project finance, and we played a leading role in the Channel Tunnel Group, successful contenders to build the fixed link across the English Channel.

In 1985, we expanded our international business to meet the growing needs of our customers in the Far East, Australia, Canada and Spain.

Strength in Capital Markets

We are well positioned to exploit the unique opportunities which deregulation will bring to the City of London. We have

formed National Westminster Investment Bank (NWIB) which will combine the merchant banking skills of County Bank and the securities capability of Fielding Newson-Smith and County Bisgood.

NWIB will be capitalised at £300 million and will weld together the different capital markets disciplines into an effective and competitive force.

Strength in the Community

We take great pride and pleasure in the way we work with and for the communities where we operate. Our Community Services Programme includes help to charities, staff secondments and sponsorship. We supported over 5,000 organisations with more than £6 million.

Confidence in the Future

Looking back over 1985, we derive a great deal of satisfaction from the progress and achievements of National Westminster Bank Group.

We have harnessed the forces of change to work for the Group's benefit and have laid the foundations for our future prosperity.

We do not underestimate the tasks before us but in our traditional strengths, stability and consistency of performance, we have the qualities that will enable us to seize the opportunities ahead.

settled trading and banking relationships can be re-established.

The leading British banks are one of the few sectors of the UK economy which face intense world competition and yet at the same time rank close to the top of the international league table. In achieving this, they contribute very substantially to the nation's invisible earnings.

The rapid changes that are taking place in the financial sector make exceptional demands upon those who have to provide a wide range of services and quickly adapt to new techniques. Our very successful year was made possible by the efforts of our staff and I take this opportunity to thank them."

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1. United Imperial would become an even greater force in food manufacturing and leisure. (UB and Imperial are strong individually. Imagine them together.)

2. United Imperial would reduce overheads. (Wherever possible, duplication would be eliminated. And distribution and warehousing would be rationalised.)

3. United Imperial would develop, re-invest, and expand in food and leisure.

(By definition, a stronger cash flow releases funds.)

4. United Imperial would open up real market opportunities for both companies. (Consider the complementary nature of their businesses and their sales forces.)

5. United Imperial would be even more innovative. (Pool the ideas of two top Research and Development teams, and eureka!)

It really should be some get-together.

United Imperial

THE LONGER YOU LOOK AT IT, THE MORE IT MAKES SENSE.

COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

Priests spread hi-tech gospel

From Dean Murphy in Los Angeles

When a member of his congregation died recently, Reverend Barton Schaefer of the United Methodist Church in Williamsburg, Pa., was able to tap into his church computer and pull out a prepared obituary for the local newspaper and information on the man's will, safety deposit box and memorial wishes.

In Rochester, N.Y., when Lowell Fewster sat down several months ago to prepare a sermon for Gates Presbyterian Church, he pulled several ideas from his *Sermon Ideas* computer disc and composed the homily on his word processor and even added a few last-minute thoughts on a Sunday morning.

For six years Revd Curtis S. Ackley of the United Church of Christ in Linfield, Pa., met other pastors from his area and a psychologist who specialises in community mental health weekly. But in an effort to widen the exchange of views, Revd Ackley now meets through a telecommunications network that allows pastors far from Linfield to join the conferences by using their home or church computers.

The clergymen, and about



350 others who gathered in Los Angeles over the weekend, are evidence that the nation's religious community is turning more and more to computer technology in organizing their churches and parishes — and, ultimately, in spreading the word of God.

The move toward hi-tech religion, signalled by the use of computers in everything from Bible games during Sunday school to swift communication between parishes and their national headquarters during a crisis, was described by one theologian as a revolution in organized religion comparable to the advent of the printed Bible four centuries ago.

"With the computer you can have all kinds of pastoral relationships where geography doesn't place any limits," David Lockhead, professor at Vancouver School of Theology at the University of British Columbia, said. "You can also do a lot of immediate

conferencing with other people with the same interests or needs, without any reference to time."

The clergymen and church leaders met at the Hyatt Airport Hotel for a three-day conference on computer applications for the ministry, which included workshops on how computers work, how to acquire and use a computer system, what software to buy and how to tap into various church-sponsored telecommunications networks that stretch from coast to coast.

The conference was sponsored by the Joint Strategy and Action Committee, a New York-based non-profit corporation that works to foster cooperation between dozens of denominations and religious organizations. The executive director John C. DeBoer said the know-how gleaned from the conference, the first held by the group, will help churches across the country save money by learning about

software programs and systems that other congregations have developed.

As part of the conference the committee gave out awards for the most imaginative use of computer systems in churches. Among the winners was the US Presbyterian Synod of Southern California and Hawaii, which for the past two years has used computers to study demographic characteristics and family profiles.

Manufacturers and distributors of computer software designed specifically for churches also were on hand. "People drop out of church a lot of times because they are not being cared for properly," said Eugene Boivin of Computer Paradigm, a Los Angeles company that offers a software package for churches for \$1,295. "With our software you can keep track of everything — including what bugs people. For example, don't bug him about money or he will stop giving to the church."

Opening up the world of Bach

By Nicholas Seames

Despite a reputation for being reluctant to acknowledge the 20th century, the world of classical music is today making overtures to the age of electronic mail by opening its own user group within British Telecom's Telecom Gold.

Called Artslink, it is the brainchild of the general manager of the European Community Chamber Orchestra, Ambrose Miller, who believes that electronic mail could prove a major benefit to the worlds of the theatre and classical music.

Artslink will, says Mr Miller, be able to provide a communications medium between orchestras, agents and venues.

It will be linked by a database packed with crucial information about which artist is handled by which agent, as well as availability and other information. He envisages other services such as an electronic newspaper with information on the latest changes in orchestras, or new contracts signed with record companies, and winners of the big competitions.

Some 30 organisations and individuals have subscribed so far, ranging from the Scottish National Orchestra and the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra to Sadler's Wells Theatre, Classical Music magazine, leading concert agents and Hyperion Records.

"We think it could make a substantial difference to the industry," said Mr Miller. "The direct communication between agents, orchestras and venues means that complex schedules can be sent, and confirmation of bookings made within minutes, instead of waiting for the post when you are on tour."

Mr Miller proved the efficacy of the electronic mail system when on tour recently in France, by sorting out problems that had arisen on the timetabling of a future tour in Germany — all through his portable computer and modem.

Sadler's Wells Theatre and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra have joined because they see Artslink, with a standing charge from £5 a month, as a considerably cheaper alternative to the £1,500 annual telex rental charge.

This alone, feels Mr Miller, will attract the small organisations, such as provincial arts centres or small-scale agents, only later will the benefits of the database become clear.

With 30 subscribers ready to log on today and another 30 investing in their equipment, Mr Miller admits that he will be a disappointed man if the number of subscribers does not top 100 within a matter of months. Only a minority do not want to enter the electronic age.

The way to stay ahead in the City

By Edward Fennell

The sensational salaries being offered to top financial and commodity dealers in the run-up to the Big Bang has obscured the race, by City institutions to recruit high quality computing professionals to manage their information technology.

But in the long-term the process of deregulation may be remembered more for its impact on investment in information technology than for its payments of king's



Data is needed fast in the dealing offices of the City

ransoms to sharp-witted youths. As John Skeritt, the partner in charge of banking consultancy at Arthur Andersen, said recently: "Banks have finally recognised that the use of information technology is integral to their business. In the past the purchase of computing systems has just been added through. Now it is attracting a great deal of interest from the most senior people."

The explanation is simple. As the pace of dealing accelerates and the scale of business expands, information technology is the only means available to keep track of what is happening. But the investment that will be needed in telecommunications, office automation, and decision sup-

port systems will be fantastically expensive.

There will also be a strong incentive to keep on buying the latest, and therefore least proven, systems because of their promise to give a competitive advantage in razor-sharp markets. Failure to keep up with technology could leave a dealer invitingly vulnerable, but investment in a wrong system would be equally damaging.

As a result it will be vital for banks and institutions to bring into their teams the top computing professionals to ensure they install systems that do the job properly.

Unfortunately, there is little tradition in the City for the technical computing people in

the back office to have much understanding of the front office business and financial skills of the traders. In many cases there has been a social and cultural apartheid as the swashbuckling traders and technically-absorbed computing staff preferred to remain remote from each other.

Mr Skeritt believes this is certain to change. "The technical people are going to have to come out of the back rooms and work in the front rooms, along with dealers in order to be able to provide detailed advice on the systems," he says. "To do that effectively, however, they will need to acquire a much better understanding of business skills."

For the right people salaries

are now rising sharply. Good telecommunications experience or computing science with strong mathematical background is what the City is keen to recruit. But above all they also need people with financial acumen — and that's where the problems are arising. The general feeling is that the institutions' attempts to attract people with knowledge of both the systems and finance have been unsuccessful.

Yet with new products appearing on the market almost every day it is vital for the institutions to be in a continual state of technological innovation in order to keep up with the Japanese and Americans.

Even more than office automation and telecommunications, the field that may be transformed most radically by deregulation is dealing which, until recently, has been entirely a matter of instinct and feel for the market. But in certain quarters it is predicted confidently that artificial intelligence will soon have a major impact on dealing.

Once that happens the ascendancy of the financially informed technocrat will be assured. Whether in a consultancy capacity, in a software house, or on the staff of banks and brokers, the City of London needs top calibre computer executives if it is to retain its pre-eminence.

JOB SCENE

ransoms to sharp-witted youths. As John Skeritt, the partner in charge of banking consultancy at Arthur Andersen, said recently: "Banks have finally recognised that the use of information technology is integral to their business. In the past the purchase of computing systems has just been added through. Now it is attracting a great deal of interest from the most senior people."

A boost for electro-mail

■ Today British Telecom is increasing the price of telecommunications, the modern replacement of the telegram, from £3.50 to £4 for up to 50 words. It is likely to give a further fillip to the electronic-mail services, which can provide a similar service for far less.

Microlink, an electronic messaging service, says for example that its service costs £1.45 for 350 words. Subscribers type out the message on their computers and then transmit it to Microlink's central computer. Those sent by micro before 8 pm ensure delivery by first post the next morning.

■ The European Investment Bank is to lend Philips 80 million European Currency Units (about £51

COMPUTER BRIEFING

million) for a big investment programme into sub-micro technology, used in the production of the next generation of integrated circuits. The program is to be carried out by Philips and Siemens of West Germany. The first type of integrated circuits in this generation will be a semiconductor static memory with a storage capacity of a million bits, one megabit a chip, to be placed on the market in 1989. One of the bank's main objectives is to promote the development of modern technology to strengthen west European competitiveness.

■ Embarrassed Israeli officials said last week they are investigating how a clerk gained access to Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's computer and altered the text of a speech he was due to deliver.

Orna Koriansky, 27, told the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* that she and others rewrote parts of the speech as a joke. The changes gave the impression that Shamir, a right-wing nationalist, wanted to weaken his own Likud bloc. Aides discovered the changes minutes before Shamir was due to deliver the speech.

■ The future of videotext, and electronic newspapers, looks uncertain at best in the US after the decision by two of the biggest newspaper chains to drop their experiments in the field. Times Mirror Company and Knight-Ridder, two videotext pioneers, have both announced they are pulling out because of lack of demand from consumers. A reassessment of the industry now seems imminent. Five years ago, some media observers predicted the printed page would eventually give way to electronic newspapers — the home delivery of news and information on computer or television screens.

■ John Akers, president and chief executive of IBM, is also to become chairman of the company from June 1.

■ Apple Computer has announced that second-quarter profits should be about \$22 million — over three times that for the same quarter last year. According to Apple's chairman, John Sculley, the company's gross margins will climb to record levels for the quarter. In a separate speech, Mr Sculley said that Apple was preparing for a "giant leap in technology" that would let it build desk-top computers many times more powerful than today's biggest mainframes.

Specialist systems that purport to know all

By Russell Jones

Commercial implementations of personal computer-based expert systems — programs that purport to give the same type of advice as a human expert might — are beginning to appear in numbers.

The replaced human expert could be an accountant or engineer or anyone with a definable pool of knowledge that can be formalized into a "knowledge base."

An expert system attempts to mimic the thought processes and actions of human experts. In the same way as a human expert asks questions and gives answers inferred from the evidence and previous experience available to him or her, so an expert system also engages in a dialogue with the user in order to determine the correct advice to give.

Human experts can, usually, explain their reasoning and justify advice and conclusions. And in the same way, an expert system should also be able to justify its conclusions, keeping all of its information or knowledge in a form that can be used for explanatory purposes.

The basic units of knowledge within an expert system are usually called rules and facts.

It is these rules and facts that constitute the expert system's knowledge base. They attempt to emulate the accumulated knowledge an accountant may possess about, for example, the vagaries of company tax law.

Expert systems are usually developed in two parts, the knowledge base and the reasoning program that works on this knowledge.

This reasoning program is often called an inference engine. It is the brain of the system minus any expertise or knowledge. It corresponds to the logic and reasoning our

expert accountant might apply in dealing with tax matters.

This concept of expert systems is hardly new. The first expert system was developed as long ago as 1965. Since then expert system techniques have been further developed, refined and applied to a wide variety of applications in such diverse fields as finance, law, manufacturing, medicine, defence and oil and gas exploration.

The past 12 months have seen the first trickle of expert systems for personal computers except that some of these are not quite expert systems as such. Rather, they are expert system shells — programs that can be used to develop expert systems.

Expertech has come up with an expert adviser on the ramifications of statutory sick pay legislation. Intelligent Index has produced a topical guide to the Data Protection Act; and Helix is using a system to screen possible job applicants.

It gives a good idea of the potential of personal computer-based expert systems. It guides a secretary through the information on a curriculum vitae and its accompanying letter.

This is designed to help speed up the process of deciding, from the CV, those applicants who possess the necessary qualifications to warrant further detailed study to perform the first screening.

The objective criteria include levels of education and work experience. Where a criterion is not satisfied the programme moves to an alternative that may compensate for the lack of the first.

Once the objective criteria have been analysed, the subjective criteria are applied. These include the way in which a covering letter is presented.

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LEGAL NOTICES

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

IN RE: CONTINENTAL AIRLINES CORPORATION
* CASE NOS 83-04019H2-5
CONTINENTAL AIR LINES, INC, and TEXAS INTER-
MEDICAL, INC.

TXIA HOLDINGS CORPORATION,
* CASE NOS. 85-05481-H3-5
TXIA FINANCE (EUROPE) B.V.,
* through 85-05483-H3-5
TEXAS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES CAPITAL N.V.,
and TEXAS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES FINANCE
N.V.,
* through 85-05484-H3-5

DEBTORS.

NOTICE AND ORDER TO CREDITORS AND
EQUITY SECURITY HOLDERS CONCERNING
MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT
WITH TEXAS AIR CORPORATION RELATING
TO THE REDEMPTION OF THE 7-1/2% CON-
VERTIBLE SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES

1. On March 17, 1986 the above referenced Debtors (the "Debtors") filed with this Court a Motion For Approval of Agreement with Texas Air Corporation Relating to their Redemption of the 7-1/2% Convertible Subordinated Debentures Due 1993 of Texas International Airlines Finance N.V. (the

2. A hearing on the Motion will take place before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division on April 8, 1986 at 9:30 am. The hearing will take place before the Honorable T. Glover Roberts, United States Bankruptcy Judge, 7th Floor United States Courthouse, 515 Rusk Avenue, Houston, Texas 77002.

3. Any person objecting to the entry of an order approving the plan must file a written motion to set aside the plan with

4. A copy of the Motion, with a copy of the Redemption Agreement attached as an exhibit thereto, can be obtained by contacting counsel for the Debtors, Mr. Lenard M. Perkins and Mr. John F. Higgins, Smeinfeld, Malay & Kay, 3700 First City Tower, Houston, Texas 77002, telephone number (713) 658-RRR1.

6. Copies of any objections to the Motion must be personally served on counsel for the Debtors, Mr Lenard M Parsons at the address set out in paragraph 4 above, on the date the objection is filed with the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 26th day of March, 1986.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF
JUSTICE
No. 008853 of 1985
CHANCERY DIVISION

THE MATTER OF AIDCOM INTERNATIONAL PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
JUDGE J. HICKS, Q.C.
JUDGE J. HICKS, Q.C. has given the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 15 February 1986 confirming the award of £1,000,000 to the plaintiff, AIDCOM International PLC, against the defendant, Mr. J. Hicks, a director of the plaintiff.

renamed Company was reg-
istered by the Registrar of
Companies on 24th March 1986
and held this 26th day of March
1986.

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Leniently handicapped Amber Rambler can show elders way home

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Amber Rambler, the improving young jumper that Harry Wharton has done so well with this season from his base in Middleham, is napped to win the Leeds Handicap Chase at Wetherby today and so record his fourth victory on the trot.

Comparing novices with seasoned campaigners such as Norton Cross and Kevinsfort is never easy, but my feeling is that the handicapper may have just under-rated Amber Rambler and thus let him in with a bright chance of winning yet again.

The nice thing about my selection is that he appears to be an amenable individual, who is easy to ride. When he won last time out at Doncaster he made all the running. The time before that he was ridden with much greater restraint



Mick Easterby, trainer of Amber Rambler

and not asked to go and win his race until the last fence had been jumped.

While conceding that Norton Cross, from Peter Easterby's in-form stable will be hard to beat, I still feel that Kevinsfort poses the main threat to Amber Rambler, always assuming that he jumps better than he did at Cheltenham last month when mistakes at the second and third fences probably made all the difference between only finishing fifth in the Grand Annual Steeplechase, and being placed.

All the same, at a difference of 7lb, I think that Amber Rambler, for all his relative inexperience, has an excellent chance of winning today's prize, especially knowing that he has been laid out for this whereas Kevinsfort was embroiled in the thick of things at Cheltenham.

Singlecote looks the other good bet today on the Yorkshire course to win the Easingwold Novices' Hurdle over 2½ miles, a distance that he relishes. Having won by six lengths at Folkestone in between being placed at Cheltenham, Sandown and Ascot, his form looks gilt-edged and certainly head and shoulders above that of his rivals this afternoon.

Those who are looking to Mr. Saughtin to win this year's Grand National at Liverpool on Saturday and thus avenge his narrow defeat twelve months ago, will be hoping to see his younger half brother, who is called Half Brother, provide some sort of favourable omen by winning the Deighton Novices' Hurdle.

He may well do so following that effortless win at Carlisle on Saturday when his cause can hardly have been helped when the horse box that was carrying him to the course broke down en route, necessitating an equine hitch-hike. "That he won eventually with the minimum of fuss, albeit against moderate opposition," spoke well of his temperament, hence his trainer's decision to pull him out again so soon.

Finally, today's only Flat race meeting at Warwick could provide the ultra-enthusiastic newcomer, Willie Brooks, with his first winner as a trainer at his first attempt. For I envisage his four-year-old Mr. Gardiner being hard to beat in the Paris Handicap Stakes over a distance that he relishes on ground that he revels in. Derry will be his danger if he gets the trip, but that is unlikely, whereas Mr. Gardiner has proved his ability to do so.

Insure to chase National double

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

Insure, owned and trained by Pat Hughes and starting at odds of 10-1, came to the rescue of the bookmakers by upsetting a substantial gamble on Omerta in yesterday's Jameson Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse. The eight-year-old could now be sent over for Saturday's Aintree Grand National.

In ground described by jockeys as "very dead", the race proved a triumph for the lightweights for there were only five finishers in a field of 15 and all of these came from the bottom of the handicap. The three English challengers, which included the favourite, Richard Mann, were all pulled up at the entrance to the straight when their chances of success had clearly gone.

For the greater part of the journey one of the milidans, Dan And Skip carrying 12st, made a bold showing up front, steering in the lead with The Elbow. As the field streamed down the hill from Ballyhack, Insure was making a forward move and he took over at the last last fence.

Thereafter there was only one challenger, Omerta, who had made some mistakes earlier but was fighting back as they turned into the straight. Omerta now came under the stronger pressure and Insure had only to jump the last two fences to retain his lead, forcing away on the flat to win.

Hughes said afterwards: "I will declare him for the Grand National in the morning and if there is someone out there with enough money he can buy a runner with a chance."



Insure jumps the last fence on his way to victory in yesterday's Irish National

Hughes originally bought Insure for 14,500 guineas and passed him on to Claran Cooney from whom he re-purchased the horse a few weeks ago. Yesterday's race was something of an advertisement for the four-mile National Hunt Chase at Cheltenham, for Insure was sent up to Northern Hay in last year's renewal, while Omerta had won the race last month.

Earlier yesterday Harry Wharton had proved beyond doubt that he is the outstanding novice hurdler in the country, even if he did not go to

Treble at Ledbury makes Dare the leading lady

By Brian Beal

Gayle Waring had a Grand National warm up at the Ledbury on Saturday, winning in style but beating very little in the process. By contrast, the fourth win of the season by Foolish Hero, at the same meeting, was by the narrowest of margins.

Gillian Minto kicked for home, three fences out, but Diana Niven on the 1984 Vaux final winner, Loch Brandy, never let her get more than two lengths ahead and came upon again at the second last. Loch Brandy went to the final fence with almost a length advantage, but Foolish Hero fought back courageously to get the victory on the post.

Amanda Harwood repeated her two successes of last week on the South and Lawn Meet at the Gorse and S. Berke, where Tim Underwood also had a double. With her stable at the Ledbury on Dawn Street, Champagne Peri and Bonnie Hue, Alison Dare now tops the lady riders' table.

Today's fixtures

Cheltenham, 12.15: Grand National, 1.30: Jameson Irish Grand National, 2.15: Grand National, 3.00: Grand National, 3.45: Grand National, 4.30: Grand National, 5.15: Grand National, 6.00: Grand National, 6.45: Grand National, 7.30: Grand National, 8.15: Grand National, 9.00: Grand National, 9.45: Grand National, 10.30: Grand National, 11.15: Grand National, 12.00: Grand National, 12.45: Grand National, 1.30: Grand National, 2.15: Grand National, 3.00: Grand National, 3.45: Grand National, 4.30: Grand National, 5.15: Grand National, 6.00: Grand National, 6.45: Grand National, 7.30: Grand National, 8.15: Grand National, 9.00: Grand National, 9.45: Grand National, 10.30: Grand National, 11.15: Grand National, 12.00: Grand National, 12.45: Grand National, 1.30: Grand National, 2.15: Grand National, 3.00: Grand National, 3.45: Grand National, 4.30: Grand National, 5.15: Grand National, 6.00: Grand National, 6.45: Grand National, 7.30: Grand National, 8.15: Grand National, 9.00: Grand 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United pray for turn of Mersey tide

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Manchester United..... 0
Everton..... 0

This draw was something for Ron Atkinson to celebrate. After three defeats by the League champions earlier this season, United shed some of their inferiority complex even if the point they gained was not enough to convince any body inside Old Trafford that they will win the title.

They required all three points to retain a realistic hope of catching the leaders. They must wait for Liverpool, marginally ahead on goal difference, and Everton to stumble heavily during the forthcoming five weeks. To imagine both of their rivals yielding a lead of five points would be as optimistic as expecting the Mersey to dry up.

Snow, sleet, hail and rain, driven by a violent wind, washed over the opening stages of the match. United were initially the brighter side in spite of their obvious physical fragility.

Robson was again wearing his harness, to protect his shoulder and, since no other regular central defender was available, Higgins emerged with a huge bandage wrapped around the hand that he broke at Birmingham on Saturday.

Underneath a curtain of swirling drizzle a Davenport run and a Gibson cross disturbed the nerves of Mimmis, the understudy for Southall in goal. But once Everton had weathered the storm - in both senses - the sun came out, the gale died down to a breeze and they began to threaten Turner at the other end.

On four occasions they forced United's goalkeeper to advance yards from his area to

clear from Lineker. Yet the first half was to end as it had started and Everton were fortunate to remain level at the interval. Hughes chose a spectacular bicycle kick at the far post when a header would have been more simple and more dangerous.

A more conventional effort from Hughes moments later was held by Mimmis, but he needed Mountfield to clear Gidman's low cross from almost off the line. He should also have been troubled early in the second half but Davenport, still notably a stranger among his new colleagues, headed Strachan's centre feebly wide.

More football, results and tables on page 30

Both attacks were lifted by the introduction of substitutes. Lineker, already suffering from a groin strain, limped off with a pulled hamstring and was replaced by Heath, who has been responsible for many late and important goals for Everton. Twice Heath almost managed a repetition of his past feats, but as a creator rather than a scorer.

With an impudent flick he provided Sharp with the clearest opportunity on a bitterly cold afternoon. Sharp, half a dozen yards out, had only to aim away from the two bodies in front of him. With a firm nod he succeeded in avoiding Turner but failed to evade the legs of Higgins.

Heath, in challenging Turner almost immediately upon his arrival, invited Steven to squeeze in a shot from an oblique angle. His accuracy could not be faulted but McGrath, voted runner-up to Lineker as the Players' Player of the Year and the outstanding figure in United's defence, moved swiftly across to nudge

the ball into the side netting. United's flames were relit by the appearance of Stapleton. Once he had come on for Davenport, who at times seemed to be playing in a game of his own, and Strachan had, coincidentally, found a regular path around the ruthlessly aggressive Van den Hauwe on the right, the fading challenge became instantly more substantial.

With 15 minutes left Stapleton, collecting a loose ball, stabbed from close range and Mimmis displayed an instinctive agility to equal that of Southall. Seconds later he could only stare in bewilderment as another spectacular and explosive volley from Hughes cracked against the iron fence barricade behind his left-hand post.

United's main opportunity of breaking the deadlock lay finally at the feet of Strachan. Released by Whiteside, he cut through, momentarily considered the possibilities and drove wide. Hanging his head in despair, he knew that his chance had gone and, with it, probably the championship ambitions of his club.

MANCHESTER UNITED: C Turner; J Gidman, A Albiston, N Whiteside, P McGrath, M Higgins, B Robson, G Strachan, M Hughes, P Davenport (sub: F Stapleton), C Gibson.

EVERTON: R Mimmis, G Stevens, P van den Hauwe, K Ratcliffe, D Mountfield, P Reid, T Steven, G Lineker (sub: A Heath), G Sharp, P Bracewell, K Richardson. Referee: K Rackett (Sheffield).

Paul Elliott, of Aston Villa, faces an international ban which seems certain to keep him out of England's two-leg semi-final of the European Under-21 championship. Elliott, who scored England's equalizer in the quarter-final second leg match against Denmark at Maine Road on Wednesday, was sent off and now faces disciplinary action by UEFA.



Chelsea, thrashed 6-0 at Queen's Park Rangers yesterday morning, can still win the championship - according to their affable young manager John Hollins. With nine matches to go, including fixtures against all of the teams above them, except Everton, Hollins is confident his side can mount a successful challenge on the title, Nicholas Harling writes.

Yet few who witnessed the conclusion of Chelsea's distressing Easter at the hands of London rivals, action from which is pictured above, can give his side even a remote chance. It was not so much the

manner of this latest surrender that most undermine Chelsea, as the fact they face more vital games without David Speedie, their Scottish international forward, who was sent off (for the second time this season) in the 66th minute after an incident involving Daves.

The frolics of Wembley nine days ago, when Speedie scored three of the goals in his side's Full Members' Cup Final triumph over Manchester City, must have seemed a long time ago as Chelsea lost for the first time on the artificial surface at Loftus Road to a team who are themselves bound for Wembley.

Three of Rangers' goals came from Bannister, whose place for the Milk Cup final against Oxford later this month was in jeopardy because he had gone 11 weeks without scoring. But his last-minute selection was justified after just eight minutes when he put Rangers ahead.

If Francis was less than convincing with his attempt to stop that goal, Chelsea's deputy goalkeeper was even less convincing with Bannister's second in the 25th minute. He failed to come to Byrne's cross, leaving Robinson free to flick the ball on for Bannister to bundle in.

With the goalkeeper's confidence at a low ebb two more goals could have come Bannister's way before the best of them all was scored a minute before half time.

Byrne, after collecting the ball just inside Chelsea's half, made space for himself and set off on a run that took him past two more challenges on the edge of the area before giving Francis no chance with a powerful shot. Two minutes into the second half Speedie squandered his side's best chance following Fereday's underhit back-pass, but Chelsea fell further behind when Rougrie's misplaced

clearance left Bannister with a clear run on goal. He took his chance and so did Byrne in the 64th minute after Allen and Bannister had combined to split the Chelsea defence.

Both substitutes were on the field now, but Rosenaur made the greatest impact by gathering Byrne's back-header to race clear for another emphatic goal-scoring drive.

With Chelsea six goals down and a man short there was little cause for shouting let alone singing, but the visiting supporters still ended the match in full voice. Their loyalty knows no bounds. Photograph: Tim Bishop

RUGBY UNION

Swansea ruthlessly take up Barbarian gauntlet

By Gerald Davies

Swansea..... 48
Barbarians..... 19

Swansea, who registered one of their highest scores against the Barbarians three years ago when they won 58-6, were in equally ruthless mood yesterday at St Helens. They won by four goals and six tries to a goal, one try and one penalty.

Swansea have had an indifferent season, their play rarely matching what appears to be their potential. There was no doubt about them yesterday and if on Saturday there was some poor handling against the Harlequins, everything was accurate and went to hand yesterday. Swansea gave an impressive display of the counter-attacking game. They took up the Barbarian gauntlet to great advantage with six of their tries stemming from movements begun deep inside their own half.

The Barbarians started well enough, containing what they had left off at the Arms Park on Saturday. They attacked with McGaughey and Keay winning much of the loose possession in the early minutes. Pearce searched for the gap, Thorburn ran wide to the left, then Lewis had a

chance on the right. It was good rugby but it was nothing compared to the brilliance of Swansea's opening score.

From a scrum, Dacey went right on his own line, switched to the left and sent a long, speculative pass, missing Hopkins, to Emry, who had space and went striding away. He moved in and out when faced with Lewis and passed to Jones, who was in support, as was Paul Moriarty. But it was Richards who took it on.

Picture and more rugby, page 30

feinting inside to send Williams running outside him for Titley to score the try. It was Swansea's finest of the season. The Barbarians replied after applying some pressure when Robbins picked up from a scrum and passed to Hill, who passed inside to Pearce for the score. Thorburn converted.

Assisted by the wind, the visitors forced Swansea back in defence. Swansea's three-quarters went offside and the Barbarians extended their lead with a Thorburn penalty. Later, Paul Moriarty picked up from the back of the scrum and sent Jones for an easy try. Before the end of the first half the home side had scored another superlative try, again

beginning in their own half with Rees. Richard Moriarty and Hopkins had initiated the movement before Emry went on a long run to send Paul Moriarty in for the score.

There was no delay in the second half and the floodgates opened with Titley's second try in the first minute. They came at regular intervals after that. Other scorers were Emry (twice), Rees, Richards, Jones and Paul Moriarty. Rees converted four of these. Devereux scored the solitary Barbarian try in the second half.

SCORERS: Swansea: Tries: Titley (2), Jones (2), P Moriarty (2), Emry (2), Rees, Richards. Conversions: Rees (4). Barbarians: Tries: Pearce, Devereux, Conversion: Thorburn. Penalty: Thorburn (1).

SWANSEA: D Rees; M Titley; D Richards; K Hopkins; Emry; M Dacey; R Jones; P Foster; P Hitchens; K Goldough; P Moriarty; R Moriarty; J Williams; M Davies (captain); T Cheeseman.

BARBARIANS: P Thorburn (Neath); P Lewis (Llanelli) (prop); J Devereux (Gloucester); P Foster (Leeds); P Hitchens (Cambridge University); A Hadley (Cardiff); G Pearce (Llanelli); R Hill (Bath); L Delaney (Llanelli); W Burns (Lansdowne); I Edman (Cardiff); A Keay (Saracens); P May (Llanelli); R Lister (Leeds); S McGaughey (Hawick); G L Roberts (Coventry). Referee: C Norling (Swansea).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Whitfield has a field day

By Keith Macklin

The championship battle swung towards Halifax yesterday when the Thrum Hall side beat Warrington 18-6 and their nearest challengers, Wigan and Widnes, suffered unexpected home defeats. It seems that Halifax, with three games to play, have the championship within their grasp as other contenders fall foul of bigfixture backlogs.

The highlight of the Halifax win was a magnificent solo try by Colin Whitfield in the first half against Warrington. The home side were perhaps a little fortunate to have a penalty try awarded to them when Heugh was obstructed but they were good value for victory.

Wigan spectators streamed from the ground minutes before the end at Central Park. They could hardly believe their eyes as Oldham, 6-2 down at half-time, scored four second-half tries with some excellent running and han-

dling which exposed alarming gaps in the Wigan defence.

It was a see-saw second half, with the lead constantly changing hands until Oldham's late burst brought the clinching tries from Foy and Hobbs. The other Oldham tries came from Warnecke and Kirwan; Hobbs kicked five goals.

Wigan came to life as an attacking force only in the second half, their tries coming from Hanley, Holden and Stephenson, with Stephenson landing three goals.

Widnes scored first against St Helens but the visitors damaged Widnes's title prospects with three excellent tries from the New Zealanders, Elia, the Australian, Veivers, and the young newly signed winger, McCormick.

Another team to slip from grace were Hull Kingston Rovers, who showed the ex-

hausting effects of Saturday's gruelling cup semi-final by losing 14-8 against the bottom club, Dewsbury.

Salford ensured first division survival next season by winning a comfortable 24-0 victory over their neighbours, Swinton. In the second division Rochdale Hornets revived their promotion hopes by beating Runcorn Highfield 33-0. Chris Burton, the Hull Kingston Rovers' second-row forward, has broken his arm and is out for the remainder of the season, missing the cup semi-final replay at Leeds on Thursday.

SLALOM LAGER CHAMPIONSHIP: Castleford 24, Featherstone 16; Dewsbury 14, Hull KR 18; Halifax 18, Warrington 6; Hull 18, York 12; Swinton 24, Salford 24; Widnes 6, St Helens 10; Wigan 18, Oldham 26. Second division: Blackpool 8, Leigh 15; Bramley 46, Koughley 10; Doncaster 14, Batley 16; Rochdale 32, Runcorn Highfield 0; Workington 30, Barrow 16.

CRICKET: THE LAST OF THE ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS

Robinson patient as England toil

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Port of Spain, Trinidad

England were put in in the fourth and last one-day international here yesterday and found a pitch on which it was difficult to get out until the final slog, yet hard, even then, to score many runs. It was brown and bare, in contrast to the wicket a few yards away for Thursday's Test match, which was more like a green dragon. In 48 overs England could manage only 165 for nine wickets.

Pitches quite as slow as this one are more a feature of cricket on the Indian subcontinent than in the Caribbean. The bounce was as low as Dhaka, the cardboard texture as grey. England had a share of the one-day series to play for, having contrived a victory here earlier in March between defeats in Jamaica and Barbados.

Their pilot yesterday was Robinson, who had no short bowling or steep lift to unsettle him. He made 55, an innings of admirable patience and much hard work. Botham's flailing 29 was England's next best score.

In the fifth over of the day Gooch, trying to force Marshall to leg, succeeded only in spooning him to mid-wicket. It had taken Marshall only four balls to decide that the pitch warranted only one slip.

The second, Richards, was fielding where Marshall had repositioned him. With the ball coming so sluggishly onto the bat, they were particularly difficult conditions for the touch player, and after 11 overs Robinson had still scored only four. Looking for the quick single is not in his game. If Richards and Richardson had been running for England they would no doubt have found any number. But Gooch got the innings moving a little and eventually Robinson found a couple of offside long hops to hit for four.

At the first interval for drinks, on a baking hot day, England were 49-1 after 16 overs. The first ball on the resumption bowled Gooch, who played round it. Walsh, the bowler, had come into the West Indian side as a more reliable one-day performer

in Patterson. Though a pumper of the ball, Lamb found it hardly less difficult than Robinson to pierce Richards's field, in which he himself was a live wire. Lamb was 11 overs reaching double figures, in spite of his trying to stir Robinson between the wickets. Harper, bowling off breaks, proved no easier to get away than the faster bowlers. So that after 30 overs England were only 81 for two. In the 31st over Lamb was caught at the wicket, looking for off-side runs from a low, short and wide ball.

This brought in Botham to try and crash his way into some sort of form, and he stayed for most of the rest of England's innings. He told me on Sunday that he had felt in "reasonable nick" for most of the tour, whatever his record may suggest. He has not always looked it. Now he tried a variety of heaving improvisations, one or two of which came off.

In the fortieth over he lost Robinson, yorked by Marshall, then Willey, caught at

backward cover in the 43rd. With the batsmen taking risks off every ball as time ran out, a near-capacity crowd enjoyed the tip and run and, when Botham had the strike, the burlesque. Botham was caught on the midwicket boundary two overs from the end, needing another five or six feet of height to clear it. Downtown kept busy until beautifully caught by Greenidge, and West Indies were left in the end with a target of just under three and a quarter runs an over.

Murray Turner, aged 22, a seam bowler who was not re-engaged by Somerset at the end of last year, has accepted a month's contract from the county for April.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND	
G A Gooch c Richards	10
b Marshall	35
R T Robinson b Marshall	28
b J Gower b Walsh	28
b Lamb c Brien b Walsh	16
T Botham c Harper b Garner	29
P Willey c Greenidge b Marshall	9
P R Downton c Greenidge b Marshall	12
R M Edmond b Garner	5
J E Embury not out	2
P H Edmonds b Garner	0
Extras (b 1, lb 4, w 2, nb 3)	10
Total (8 wickets, 47 overs)	165
FALL OF WICKETS: 4-55, 2-49, 3-81, 4-125, 5-138, 6-154, 7-161, 8-165, 9-165.	
N A Foster did not bat.	
SLOWDOWN: Marshall 5-0-37-4; Garner 9-1-22-3; Holding 6-1-32-0; Walsh 10-0-25-2; Harper 10-0-44-0.	
Umpires: C Cumberbatch and S Mohammed.	

SWIMMING

Perfect credentials

Gaynor Stanley produced perfect credentials yesterday for leading England's women at the Commonwealth Games this summer. The 20-year-old from Stockport took the 400m medley title at the national short course championships at Barnet Copthall, her second success in the Hewlett Packard event. It gained her the award of top women's swimmer on the last day.

Her time of 4min 51.73sec was the second best British mark of the year, and she said "When I competed at the 1982 Games I was too young to realize my responsibility to my country, but this time I will tackle it completely differently."

"I am a lot older now, more mature, and I think my attitude has improved as I approach each event. I have been captain of the Great Britain women's team for the last couple of meets; it is an

honour, and I want to keep the job. "It is no good having a captain who cannot win events, and I am trying to lead by example. I would love to be captain of the England women's team in Edinburgh." Adrian Moorhouse, the 100m breast stroke champion of Europe and the Commonwealth, just failed to break his British record of 2min 14.35sec, set last year, when he retained his 200m crown. However, his time of 2min 15.13sec was the fastest British mark for 1986. He said: "I went out too fast and just died near the end." His 100m success on Saturday clinched the award of top male swimmer.

Mark Foster, aged 15, of Millfield, followed up with yesterday's fastest British 50m freestyle mark of 1986, and a British junior 100m butterfly record.

MOTOR RALLYING

Toyota out in front

Nairobi (Reuters) - Toyota filled the first three places in the Kenya Safari at the end of the 800-mile second leg. Bjorn Waldegard, of Sweden, Erwin Weber, of West Germany, and Lars-Eric Torph, also of Sweden, all driving Toyota Celica TCs, arrived in that order here yesterday morning.

Waldegard, who won the race in 1977 and 1984, maintained the lead he had built early in the first leg. He has

amassed only 115 penalty minutes, 30 fewer than Weber and 117 fewer than Kankkunen, of Finland, who is lying joint fourth with Markku Alen, his compatriot. STRAIGHTEN AFTER SECOND LEG: B Waldegard (Swe), Toyota Celica TC, penalty 115 mins; E Weber (Ger), Toyota Celica TC; L E Torph (Swe), Toyota Celica TC; 166; A J Kankkunen (Fin), Peugeot 205 Turbo 16; and M Alen (Fin), Lancia Rally 037. 222; S M Nordberg (Ner), Subaru Turbo 16; 246; L K Cronqvist (Swe), Volvo 740 GLE; 274; G Cronqvist (Swe), Lancia Rally 037; 281; 10, F Tundo (Keny), Subaru Turbo; 288.

Connors pays up

New York - Jimmy Connors paid a fine of \$30,000 (about £13,700) and began a 10-week suspension yesterday, the Men's International Professional Tennis Council announced. Connors, aged 33, will not be able to play in a sanctioned tournament until June 9 at Queen's Club. He will not be able to enter the French Open - the first time a player has been ineligible for one of the four Grand Slam events because of misconduct. The penalties were levied after Connors defaulted for refusing to continue his semi-final match against Ivan Lendl in the Lipton International Players Championships in Florida on February 21.

Richer Becker

Chicago (UPI) - Boris Becker beat Ivan Lendl in the final of the Chicago Grand Prix on Sunday and earned \$50,000 (about £24,000). Lendl said he would not play tennis again until a knee problem was rectified. Becker's 7-6, 6-3 victory ended Lendl's winning run of 29 successive matches.



Becker: crushed Lendl

Driving force

David Llewellyn, of Wales, driving an MG Metro 6R4, increased his lead in the Rothmans Circuit of Ireland Rally on the first two stages yesterday after the Waterford halt. The former national champion took 50sec off the second-placed man, Russell Brookes.

Hockey prizes

England schoolboys won the bronze medal in the under-18 category and the silver in the under-16 at the international youth hockey tournament in Eindhoven yesterday. The Netherlands won the gold medal in each event.

Up for the Cup

Colombo - Pakistan assured themselves of a place in the Asia Cup one-day cricket finals yesterday by beating Bangladesh by seven wickets.

Hagaby on top

In the Paper Sacks Jan Kjelstrom orienteering festival, held yesterday in Thetford Forest, Norfolk, the men's 4 x 8km race went to Hagaby, of Sweden, in 142min 32sec. Sheffield University came second in 143min 36sec, followed by Airlie, in 144min 29 sec.

Mexico blow

Dusseldorf - Bernd Schuster has told the West German manager, Franz Beckenbauer, that he will not return to the national team for the World Cup finals in Mexico this summer. Beckenbauer said yesterday. "I must accept Schuster's reasons," the manager said. Schuster, who plays for the Spanish champions, Barcelona, is reportedly negotiating to join the West German first division club, Hamburger SV, next season.